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PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

HE'S BACK--AND HE'S GOT HELP...BIG HELP--

THE TERRIBLE TINKERER!

J.R. J.R. + AM

While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter gained the arachnid's powers... and in effect, became a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!

BILL MANTLO WRITER / JIM MOONEY PENCILER / FRANK SPRINGER INKER / JIM NOVAK LETTERER / BEN SEAN COLORIST / DENNY O'NEIL EDITOR / JIM SHOOTER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

SPECIAL GUEST CREATORS

OF THE TERRIBLE TINKERER

HELP ME! IF I DON'T GET AWAY FROM HERE, I--

A JUMPER! SHE SOUNDS HYSTERICAL! I'D BETTER GIVE THE POLICE A HAND-- AS SPIDER-MAN!

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TAKE THEM AWAY! WHY WON'T SOMEONE TAKE THE TOYS AWAY?
TOYS! SHE'S RAVING! SHE'S LIABLE TO JUMP BEFORE I CAN CHANGE INTO MY SPIDER-MAN COSTUME!

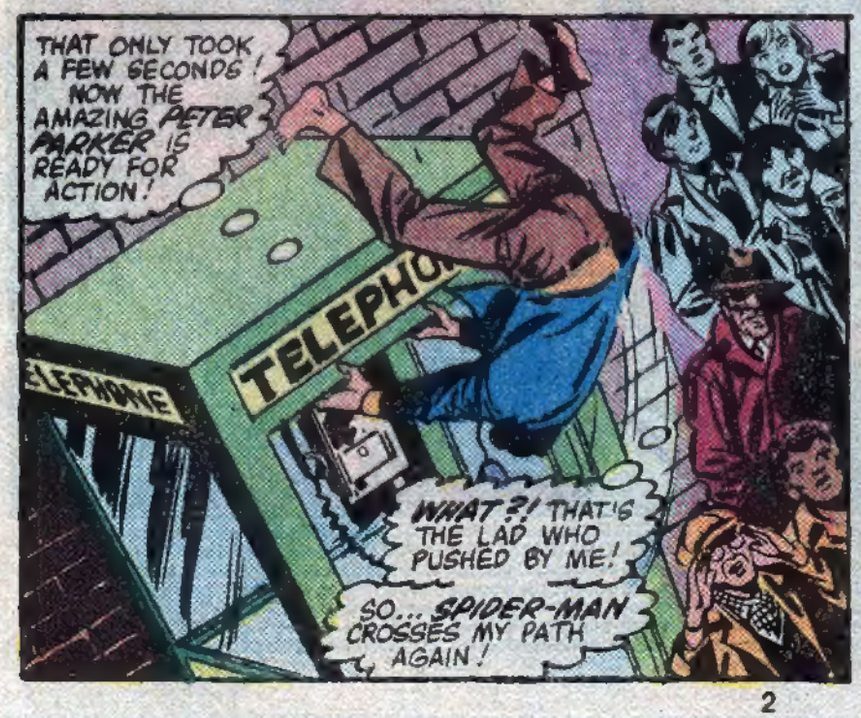
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING -- AND FAST!
S'CUZE ME!
EH?

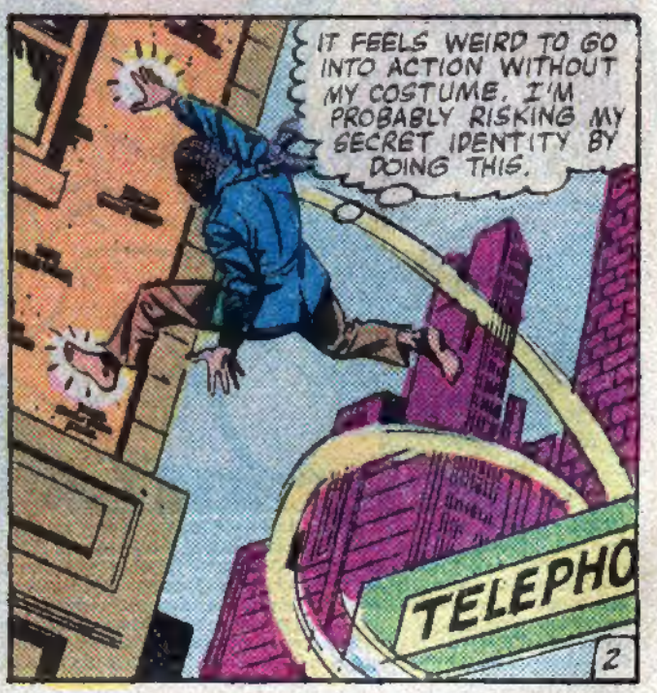
FUNNY... I COULD'VE SWORN MY SPIDER-SENSES JUST TINGLED. NO TIME TO WONDER ABOUT IT -- GOTTA HELP THAT GIRL!
HMMM... A REPORTER, NO DOUBT, PHONING IN THIS STORY.

GOOD! NOBODY WATCHING ME! I DON'T WANT AN AUDIENCE!
SINCE THE CROWD IS WATCHING THE GIRL, NO ONE WILL SEE ME TAKE MY WEB-CARTRIDGES FROM MY BELT--

--AND LOAD THEM INTO MY HANDY-DANDY WEB-SHOOTERS!
CLIK!

A LIGHT APPLICATION OF WEBBING TO MY FACE AND-- VOILA! INSTANT DISGUISE!
THWIP

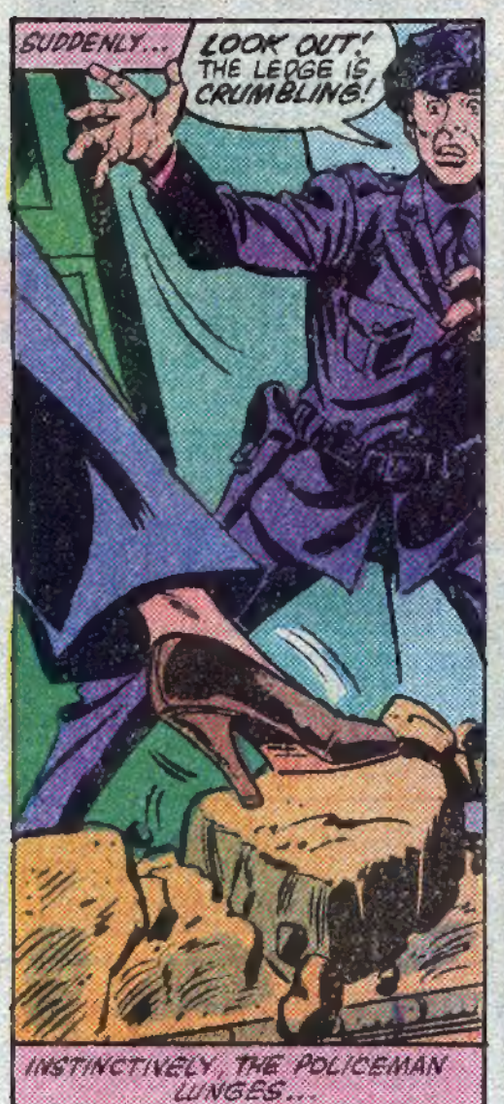

THAT ONLY TOOK A FEW SECONDS! NOW THE AMAZING PETER PARKER IS READY FOR ACTION!
TELEPHO
WHAT?! THAT'S THE LAD WHO PUSHED BY ME!
SO... SPIDER-MAN CROSSES MY PATH AGAIN!

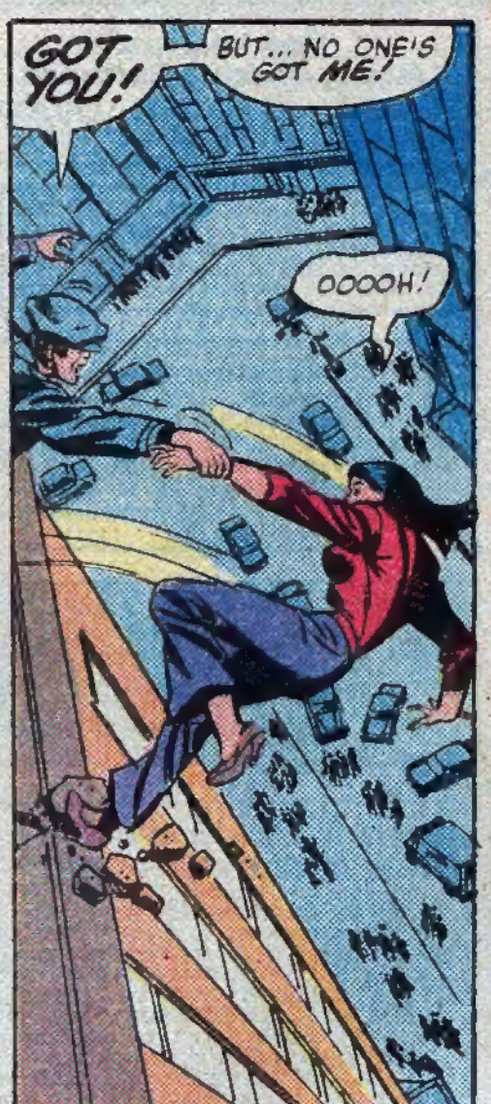

IT FEELS WEIRD TO GO INTO ACTION WITHOUT MY COSTUME. I'M PROBABLY RISKING MY SECRET IDENTITY BY DOING THIS.
TELEPHO
2

--BUT I CAN'T RISK A GIRL'S LIFE OVER ANYTHING THAT PALTRY!
STAY BACK! IF YOU COME CLOSER--I'LL JUMP!
TAKE IT EASY! THIS LEDGE IS TOO OLD TO SUPPORT US BOTH FOR LONG!
THE POLICEMAN REACHES OUT TO SAVE THE GIRL...

...BUT SHE HAS A DECIDEDLY DIFFERENT OUTLOOK ON THE SITUATION!
NEITHER OF US WANTS TO GET HURT, RIGHT?
N-NO! DON'T HURT ME!

I WON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THE TOYS! I SWEAR I WON'T!
HUH?! SHE'S LURCHING TOWARD THE EDGE!
LOOK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!
WITHOUT HIS COSTUME? BUT WHO ELSE COULD IT BE? I HOPE HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING!


SUDDENLY...
LOOK OUT! THE LEDGE IS CRUMBLING!
INSTINCTIVELY, THE POLICEMAN LUNGES...

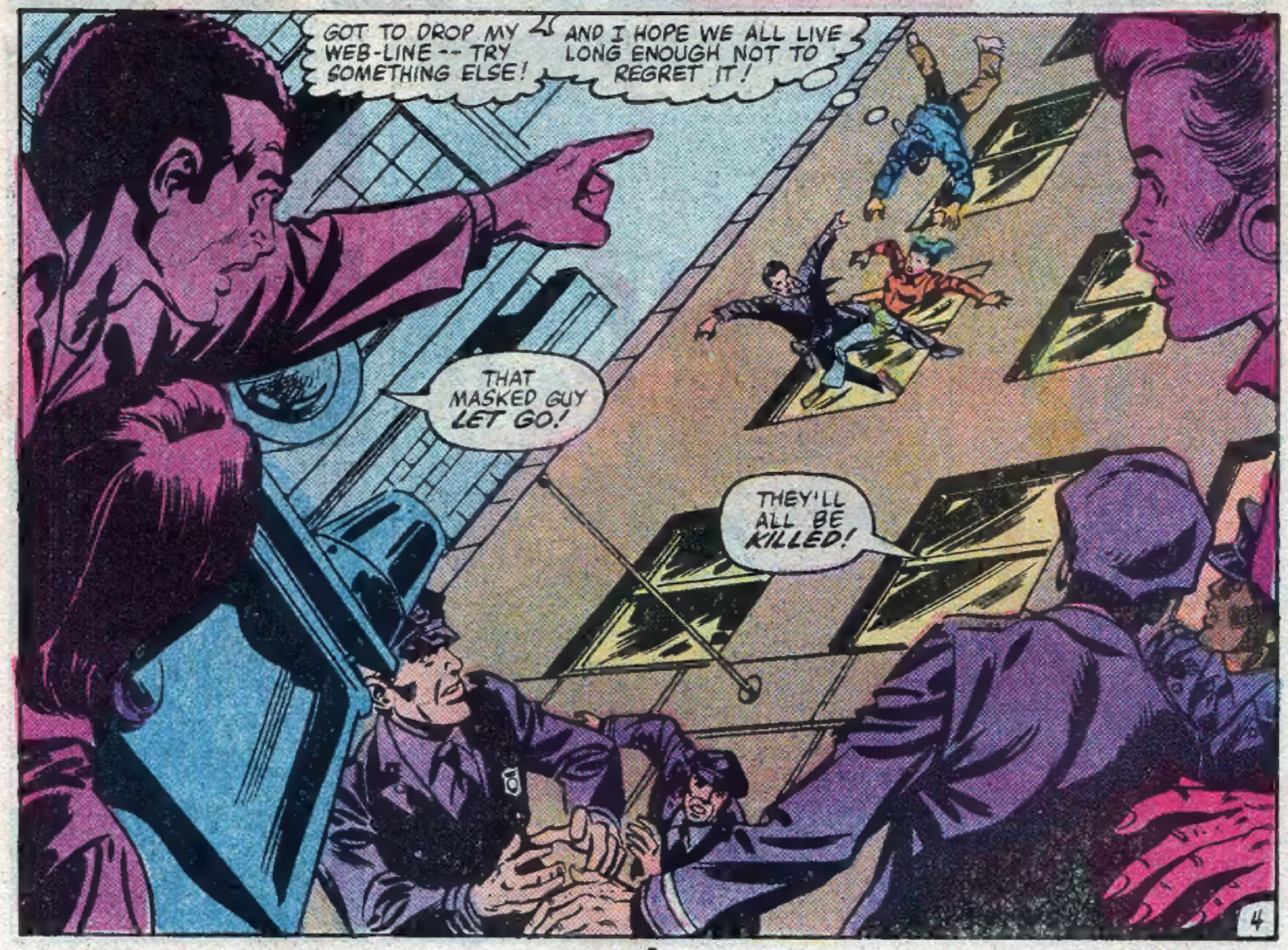

GOT YOU!
BUT... NO ONE'S GOT ME!
OOOOH!

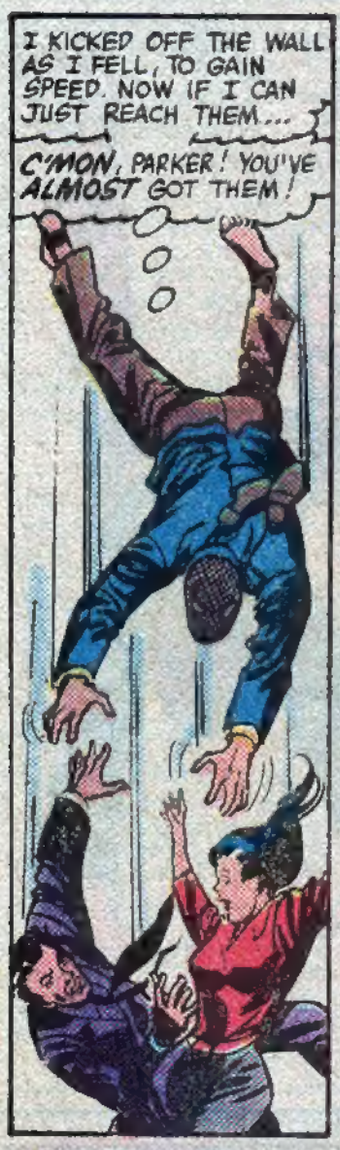
OH, GREAT!
AIEEE!
3

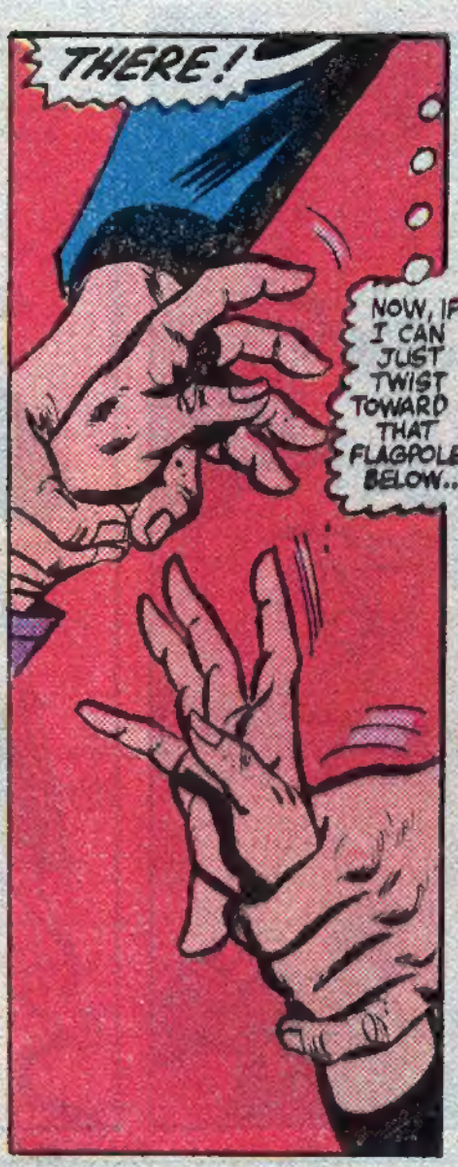
NO TIME TO LOSE!
TWIP!

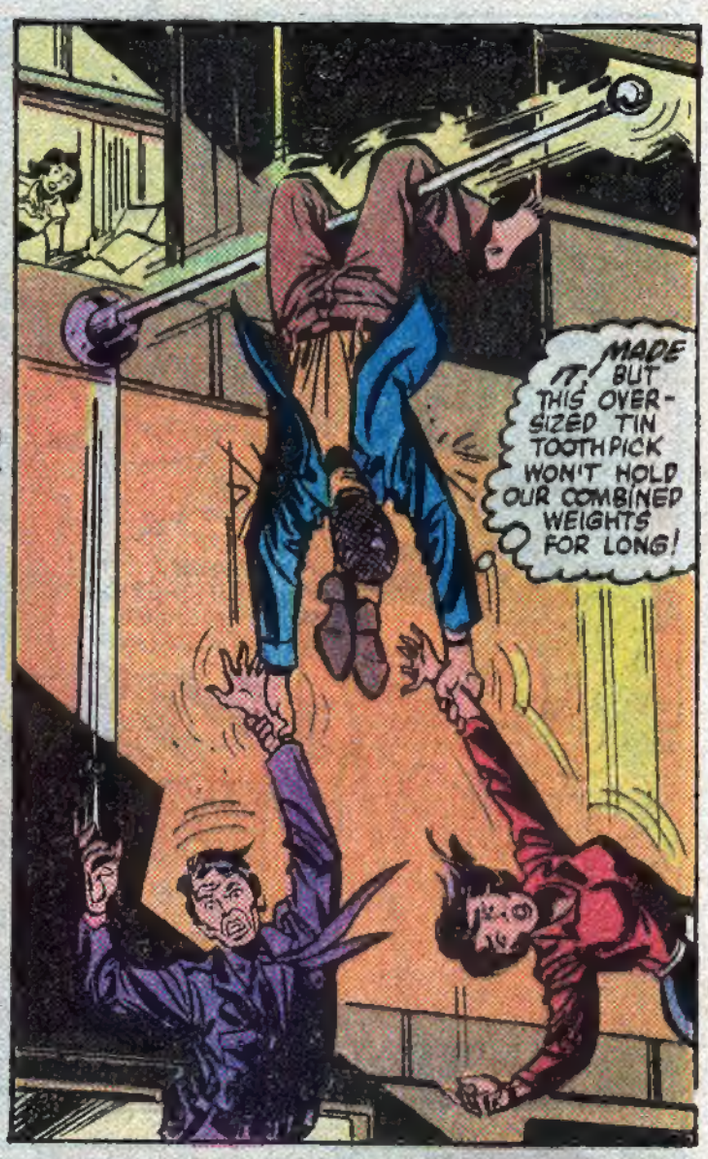
GOT THEM! BUT THEY'RE PANICKING... STRUGGLING!
THIS IS NO GOOD! I WASN'T SET RIGHT! THEIR MOMENTUM IS JERKING ME--

-- RIGHT OFF THE WALL!


GOT TO DROP MY WEB-LINE -- TRY SOMETHING ELSE!
AND I HOPE WE ALL LIVE LONG ENOUGH NOT TO REGRET IT!
THAT MASKED GUY LET GO!
THEY'LL ALL BE KILLED!
4


I KICKED OFF THE WALL AS I FELL, TO GAIN SPEED. NOW IF I CAN JUST REACH THEM...
C'MON, PARKER! YOU'VE ALMOST GOT THEM!

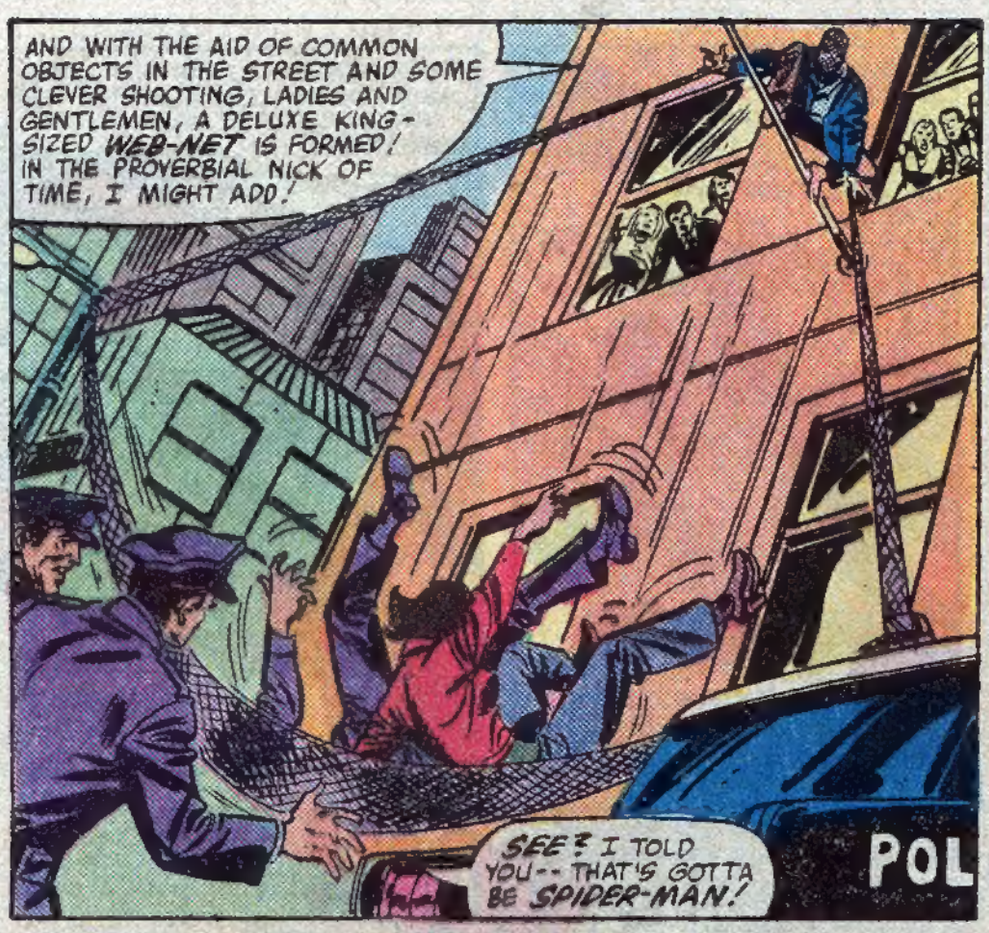

THERE!
NOW, IF I CAN JUST TWIST TOWARD THAT FLAGPOLE BELOW...


MADE IT! BUT THIS OVER-SIZED TIN TOOTHPICK WON'T HOLD OUR COMBINED WEIGHTS FOR LONG!

FORTUNATELY, IT DOESN'T HAVE TO!
HUH? HE'S DROPPING US AGAIN!

OH, MAMA-- WE'RE GOING TO DIE!
NOT AFTER I'VE GONE TO ALL THIS TROUBLE TO SAVE YOU, YOU WON'T!
WITH MY SPIDER-SPEED, I JUST HAVE TO GET IN POSITION--

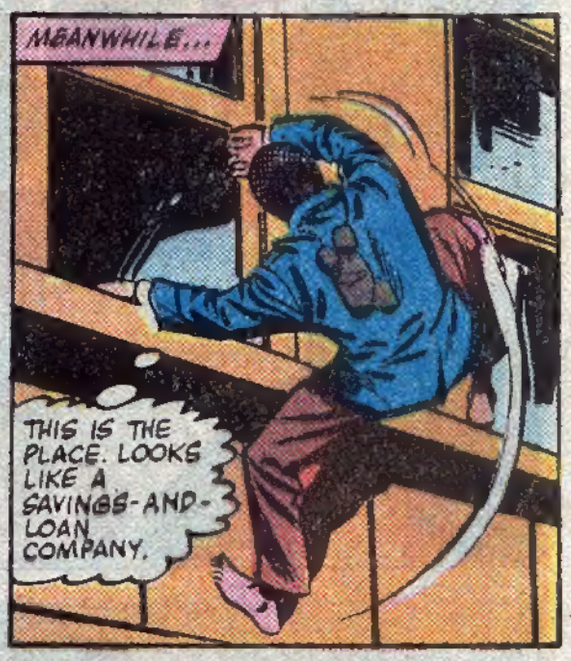
--AND, NOW THAT I'VE FINALLY GOT MYSELF BRACED...
FWIT
FWIT
5

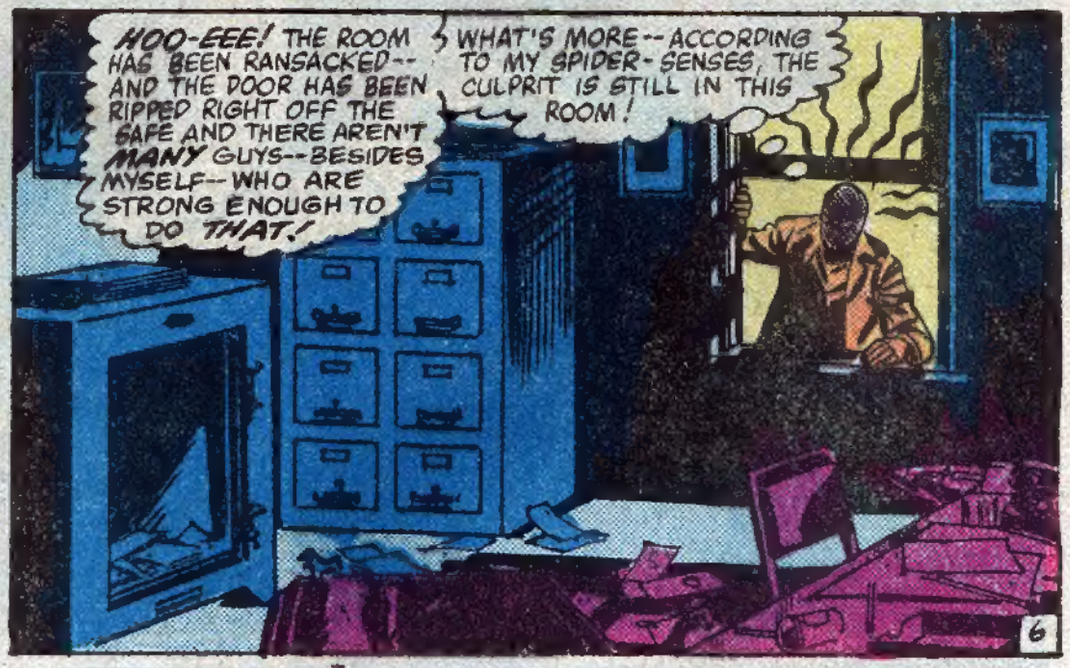

AND WITH THE AID OF COMMON OBJECTS IN THE STREET AND SOME CLEVER SHOOTING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, A DELUXE KING-SIZED WEB-NET IS FORMED! IN THE PROVERBIAL NICK OF TIME, I MIGHT ADD!
SEE? I TOLD YOU-- THAT'S GOTTA BE SPIDER-MAN!
POL

JEEZ! WHAT A SAVE!
YOU OKAY, BOB?
A LITTLE SHAKY, BUT I'LL LIVE-- THANKS TO OUR MASKED FRIEND!
WHO WAS THAT GUY ANYWAY?

I SHOULD YELL "HI-HO, SILVER! AWAY!"-- BUT RIGHT NOW I'M MORE INTERESTED IN SEEING THE OFFICE THAT WOMAN CAME FROM!
SHE WASN'T CRAZY, SHE WAS SPOOKED -- AND I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT CAUSED IT!
MY SUSPICIONS WERE CORRECT! THAT WAS THE ACCURSED WALL-CRAWLER!

A PITY I DIDN'T GET A LOOK AT YOUR FACE, MY YOUNG FRIEND!
NO MATTER, I'LL HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE-- THE DAY SPIDER-MAN LIES DEAD AT MY FEET!

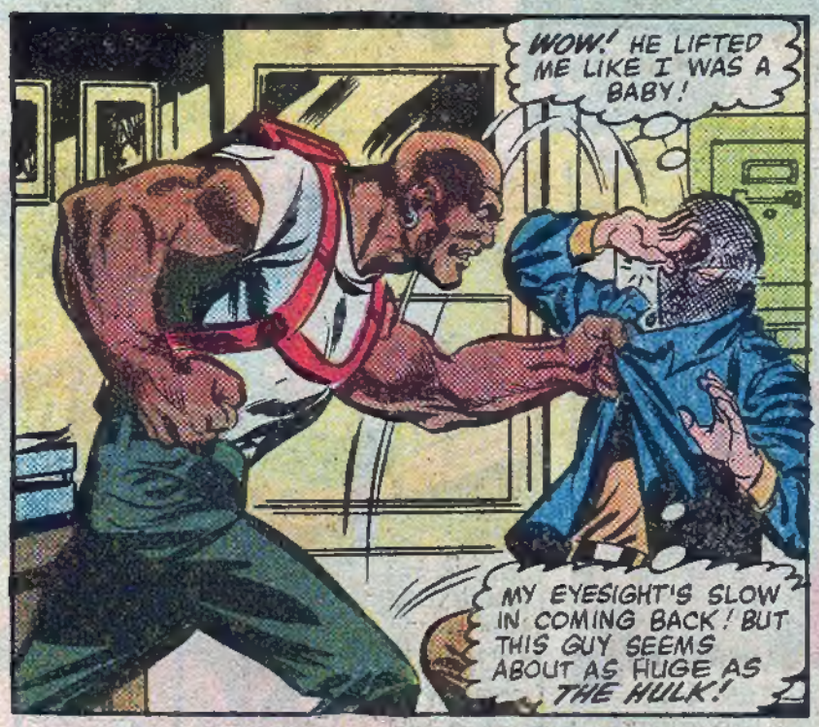

MEANWHILE...
THIS IS THE PLACE. LOOKS LIKE A SAVINGS-AND-LOAN COMPANY.

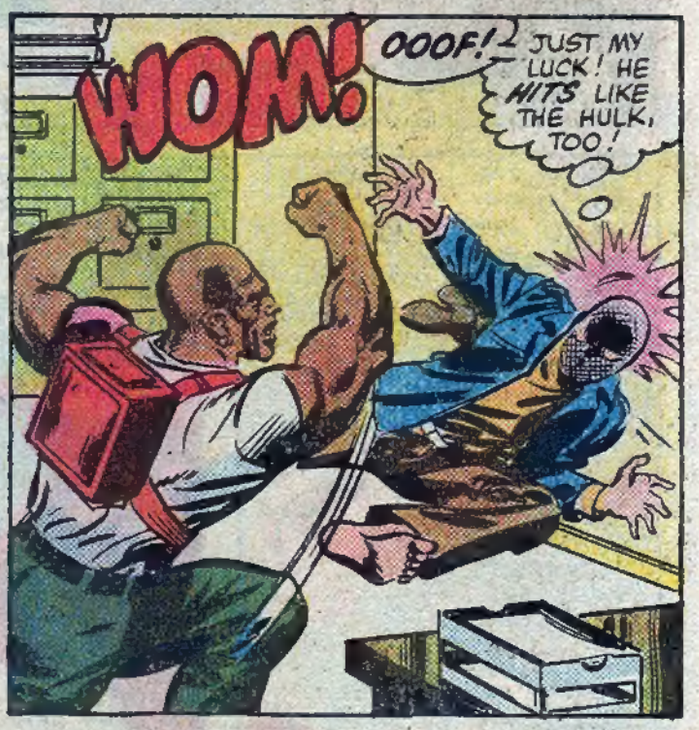

HOO-EEE! THE ROOM HAS BEEN RANSACKED-- AND THE DOOR HAS BEEN RIPPED RIGHT OFF THE SAFE AND THERE AREN'T MANY GUYS--BESIDES MYSELF--WHO ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO DO THAT!
WHAT'S MORE--ACCORDING TO MY SPIDER-SENSES, THE CULPRIT IS STILL IN THIS ROOM!
6

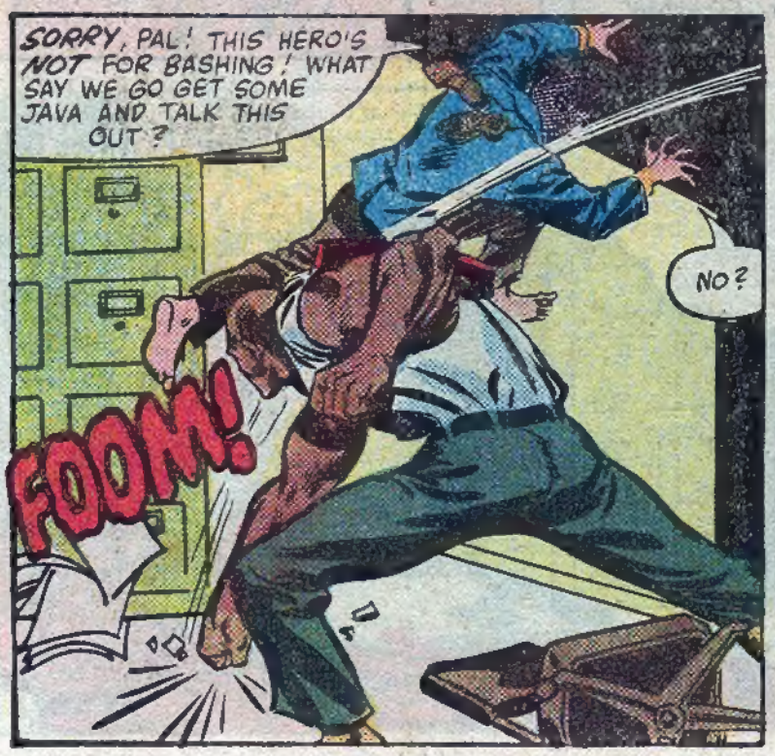
I DON'T KNOW WHERE HE'S HIDING, BUT IT SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG TO PINPOINT--!
WHAT'S THAT?!
A TOY ZEPPELIN--WITH A CANNON?!

ARGHH! FLARE--BLINDING ME!
IMPACT WOULD HAVE KNOCKED ANYONE ELSE TO THEIR DEATH...
BUT I CAN CLING TO THE WALL UNTIL MY VISION CLEARS!

SPIDER-SENSES TELL ME THAT SOMEONE'S COMING! I'LL SURPRISE THEM--THROW MYSELF AT THEM BEFORE THEY EXPECT IT!
NO! THEY MOVED AS FAST AS I DID! I'M CAUGHT!


WOW! HE LIFTED ME LIKE I WAS A BABY!
MY EYESIGHT'S SLOW IN COMING BACK! BUT THIS GUY SEEMS ABOUT AS HUGE AS THE HULK!

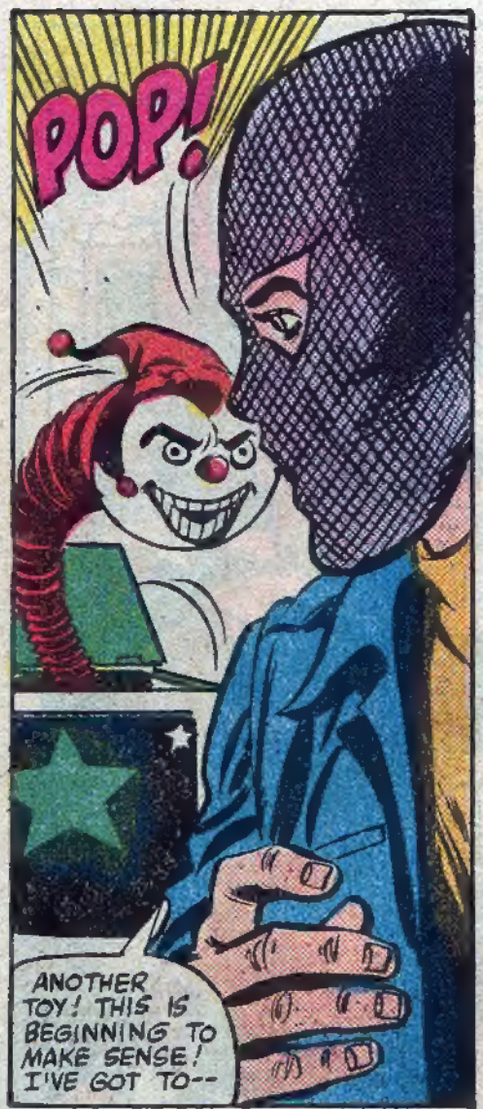

WOM!
OOOF!
JUST MY LUCK! HE HITS LIKE THE HULK, TOO!


SORRY, PAL! THIS HERO'S NOT FOR BASHING! WHAT SAY WE GO GET SOME JAVA AND TALK THIS OUT?
NO?
FOOM!

WHAT ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE, ANYWAY? THE STRONG, SILENT TYPE?
AT LEAST MY VISION'S STARTING TO CLEAR, AND ... HEY! I RECOGNIZE THIS CHARACTER...
7

HE CALLS HIMSELF "TOY." THE LAST TIME I RAN UP AGAINST HIM, HE WAS WORKING FOR THE TINKERER!

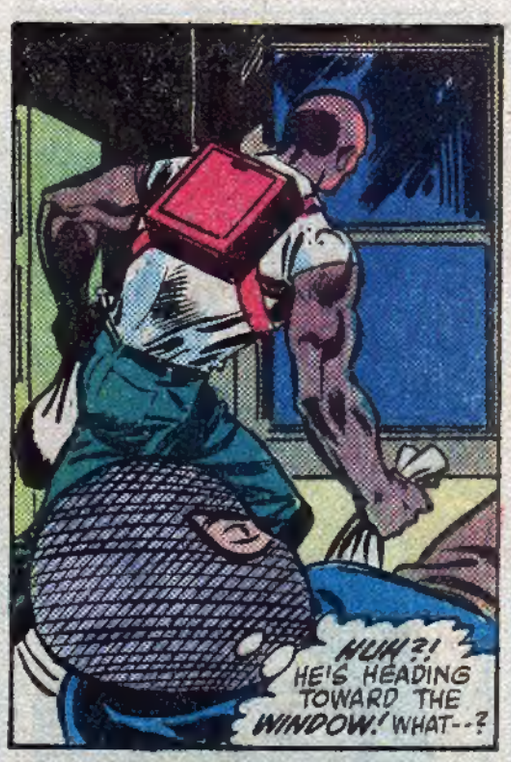
HAS HE STRUCK OUT ON HIS OWN, OR IS HE STILL WORKING FOR--?
DING-DA-DING-DING-DONG!
WHAT'S THAT?! MY EYES STILL HAVEN'T COMPLETELY CLEARED! A MUSIC BOX! BUT WHY DID IT START PLAYING NOW?


POP!
ANOTHER TOY! THIS IS BEGINNING TO MAKE SENSE! I'VE GOT TO--

FOOSH!
GAS! PROBABLY PSYCHO-ACTIVE... MAKES PEOPLE NUTS! I BET THEY USED THIS ON THAT WOMAN!
HOLDING MY BREATH KEPT ME FROM GETTING A FULL DOSE-- BUT ENOUGH GAS IS CLINGING TO THIS STUPID WEB-MASK TO MAKE ME WOOZY!

KROOM
KLUNK!
ARGH!
8

HE'S LEAVING! HE THINKS I'M OUT OF THE FIGHT!
GOT TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER... STOP HIM...

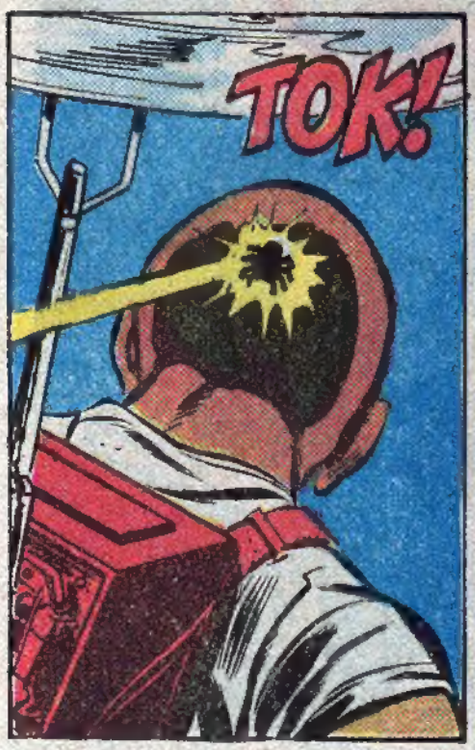

HUH?! HE'S HEADING TOWARD THE WINDOW! WHAT--?

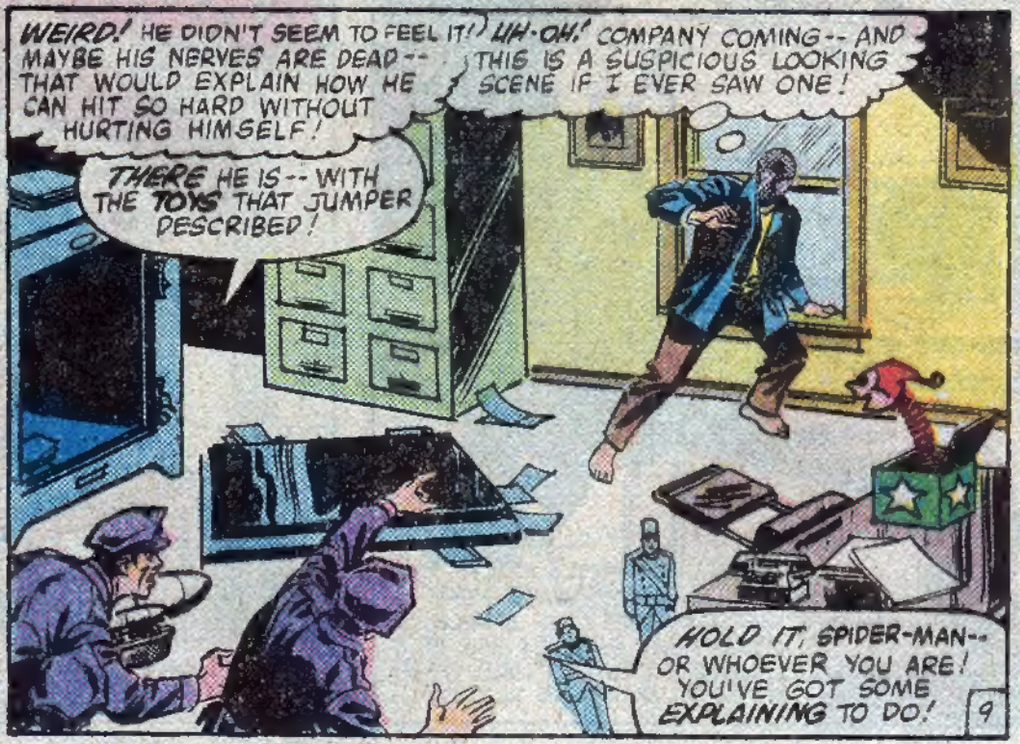
NO! HE--HE JUMPED! AND I'M TOO GROGGY FROM THAT THUMP ON THE HEAD--AND I CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO SAVE HIM!

IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE! HE GOT WHAT HE WANTED! WHY DID HE KILL HIMSELF?
OR--DID HE?
PETER CRAWLS AGONIZINGLY TO THE WINDOW WHERE HE SEES...

HIS BACKPACK! HE HAD A FLYING MACHINE IN HIS BACKPACK!
YOU'VE BEEN SUCKERED AGAIN, PARKER!

THAT BACKPACK GIVES ME SOMEPLACE TO PLANT A SPIDER-TRACER--SO I CAN FIND CURLY WHEN HE GETS TO HIS HOME BASE...
OH, NO! THE WIND CAUGHT MY TRACER! IT'LL HIT HIM IN THE--

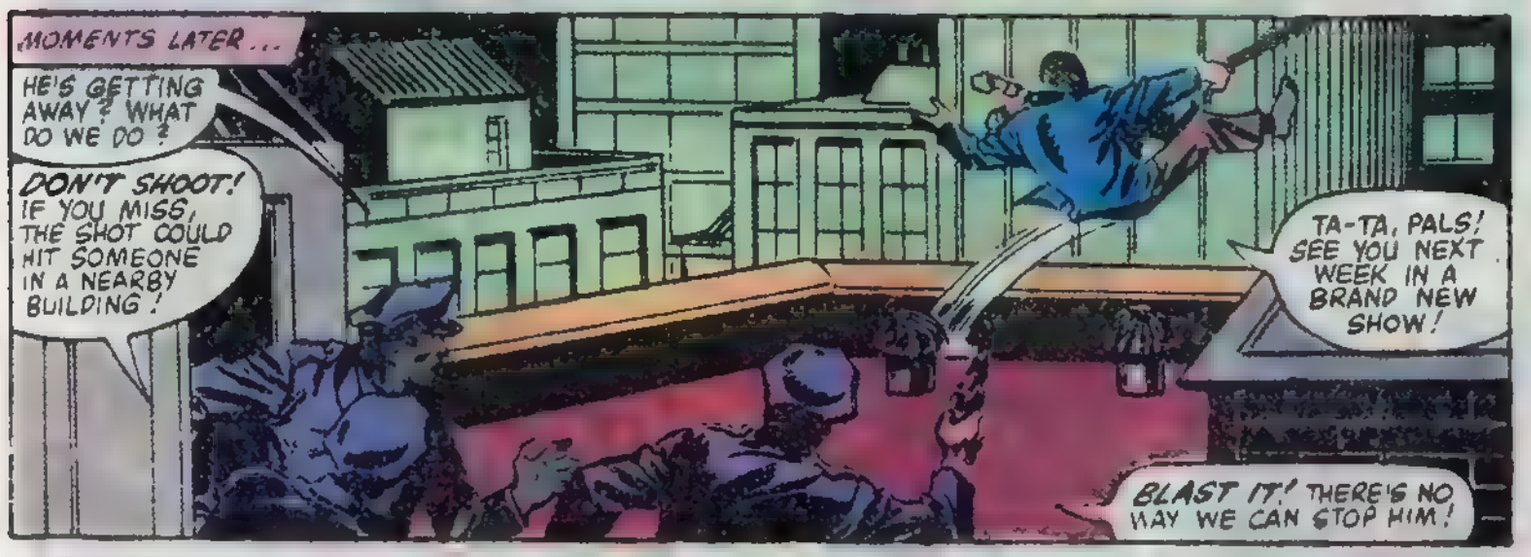

TOK!

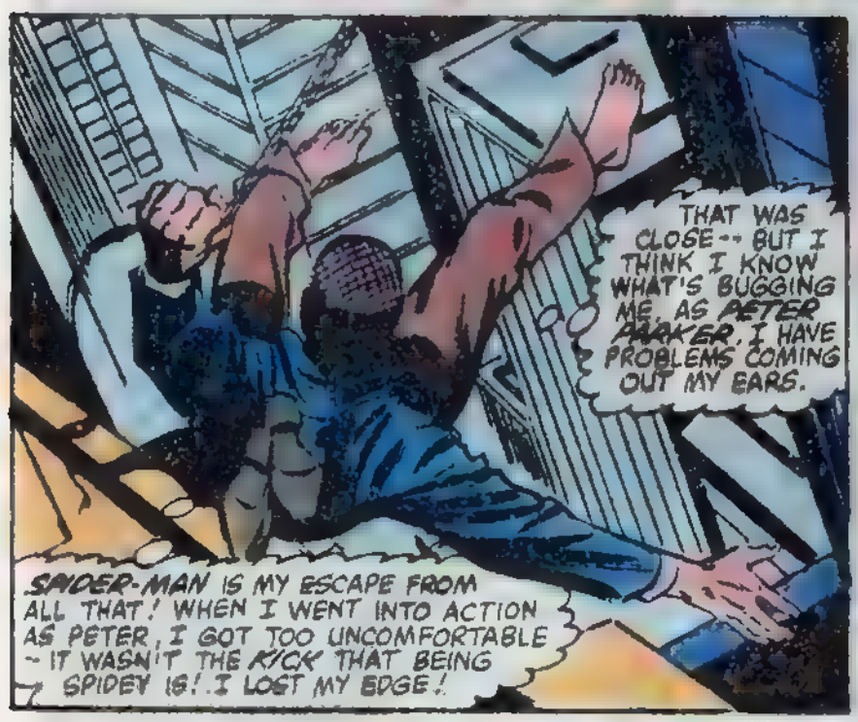

WEIRD! HE DIDN'T SEEM TO FEEL IT! MAYBE HIS NERVES ARE DEAD--THAT WOULD EXPLAIN HOW HE CAN HIT SO HARD WITHOUT HURTING HIMSELF!
UH-OH! COMPANY COMING--AND THIS IS A SUSPICIOUS LOOKING SCENE IF I EVER SAW ONE!
THERE HE IS--WITH THE TOYS THAT JUMPER DESCRIBED!
HOLD IT, SPIDER-MAN--OR WHOEVER YOU ARE! YOU'VE GOT SOME EXPLAINING TO DO!
9

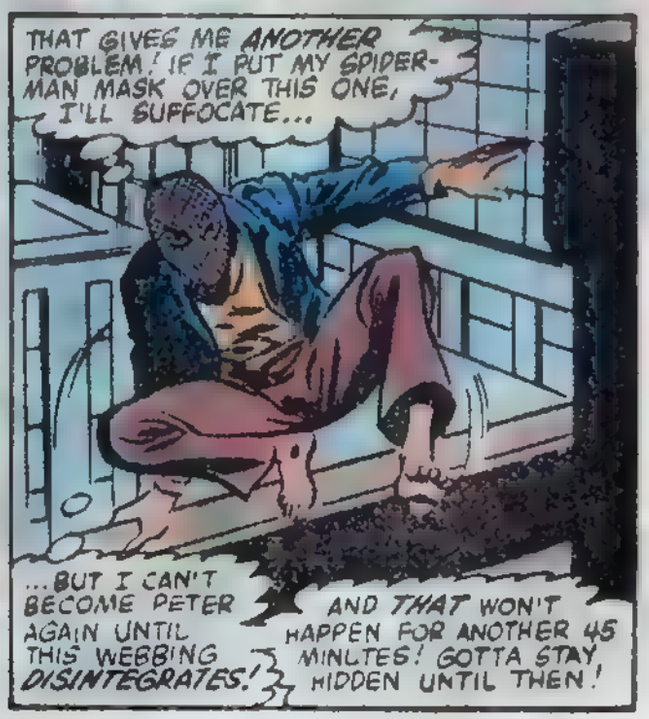
I'D LIKE TO OBLIGE YOU, OFFICERS, BUT...
HEY! HE'S FALLING OUT THE WINDOW! GRAB HIM!

TOO LATE! HE'S A DEAD MAN!
YEAH? WHERE'S THE BODY?

LOOK! THERE HE GOES--UP THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING!
EVERYONE TO THE ROOF!


MOMENTS LATER...
HE'S GETTING AWAY! WHAT DO WE DO?
DON'T SHOOT! IF YOU MISS, THE SHOT COULD HIT SOMEONE IN A NEARBY BUILDING!
TA-TA, PALS! SEE YOU NEXT WEEK IN A BRAND NEW SHOW!
BLAST IT! THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN STOP HIM!

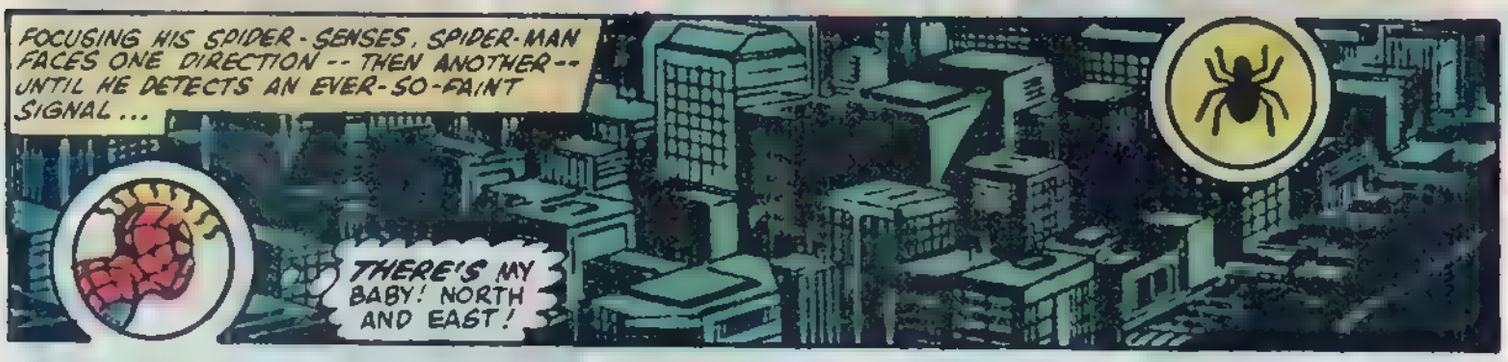

THAT WAS CLOSE--BUT I THINK I KNOW WHAT'S BUGGING ME. AS PETER PARKER, I HAVE PROBLEMS COMING OUT MY EARS.
SPIDER-MAN IS MY ESCAPE FROM ALL THAT! WHEN I WENT INTO ACTION AS PETER, I GOT TOO UNCOMFORTABLE - IT WASN'T THE KICK THAT BEING SPIDEY IS! I LOST MY EDGE!

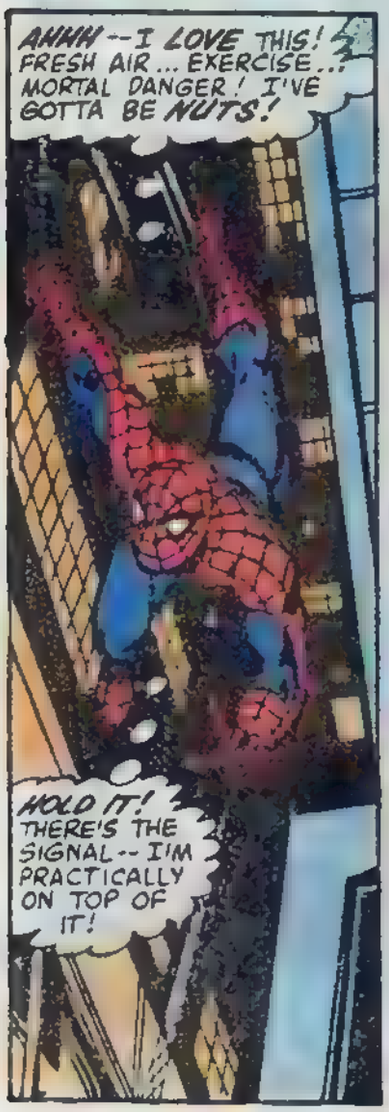

THAT GIVES ME ANOTHER PROBLEM! IF I PUT MY SPIDER-MAN MASK OVER THIS ONE, I'LL SUFFOCATE...
...BUT I CAN'T BECOME PETER AGAIN UNTIL THIS WEBBING DISINTEGRATES!
AND THAT WON'T HAPPEN FOR ANOTHER 45 MINUTES! GOTTA STAY HIDDEN UNTIL THEN!

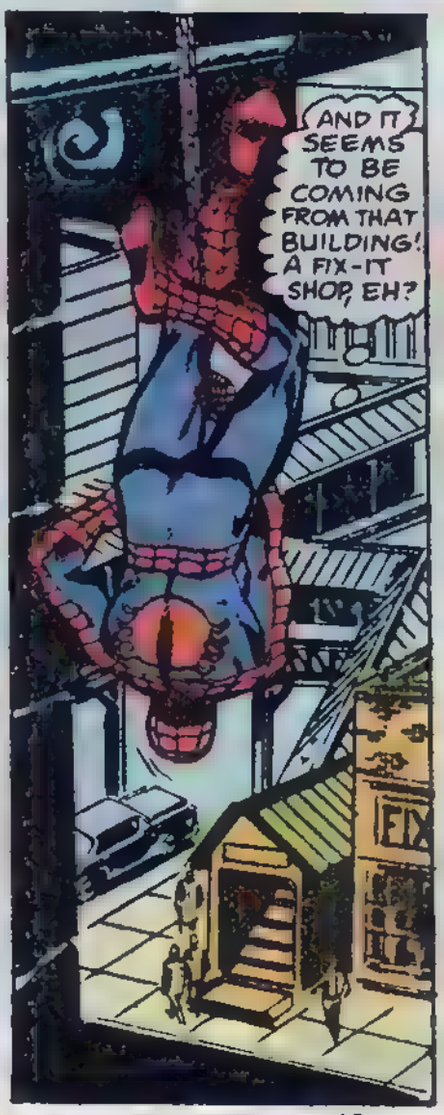
THREE QUARTERS OF AN HOUR LATER ...
WHEW!
I WAS STARTING TO THINK THAT THING WOULD NEVER COME OFF!
MY FACE IS SO HOT AND ITCHY, I HATE TO PUT MY SPIDER-MAN MASK OVER IT!

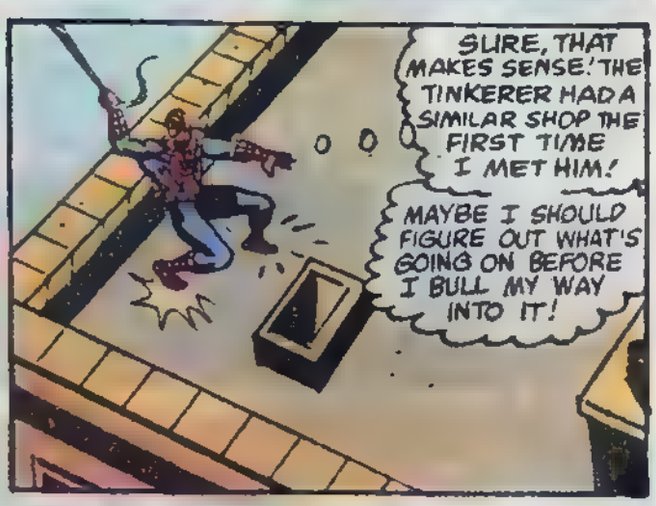
BUT I'VE GOT TO SEE THIS THROUGH TONIGHT! I DON'T LIKE BEING USED AS A PUNCHING BAG--AND THEN THERE'S THAT WOMAN WHO ALMOST GOT KILLED!

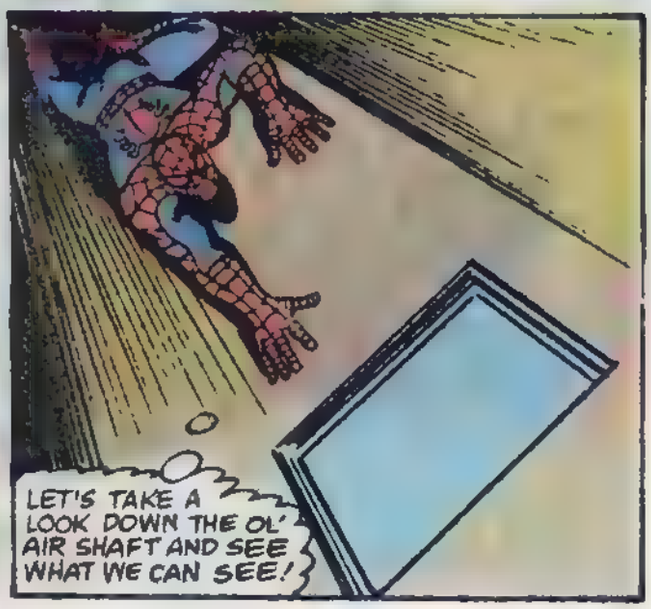
WELL, AS LONG AS CURLY HASN'T SHAMPOOED RECENTLY, MY TRACER WILL LEAD ME RIGHT TO HIM.

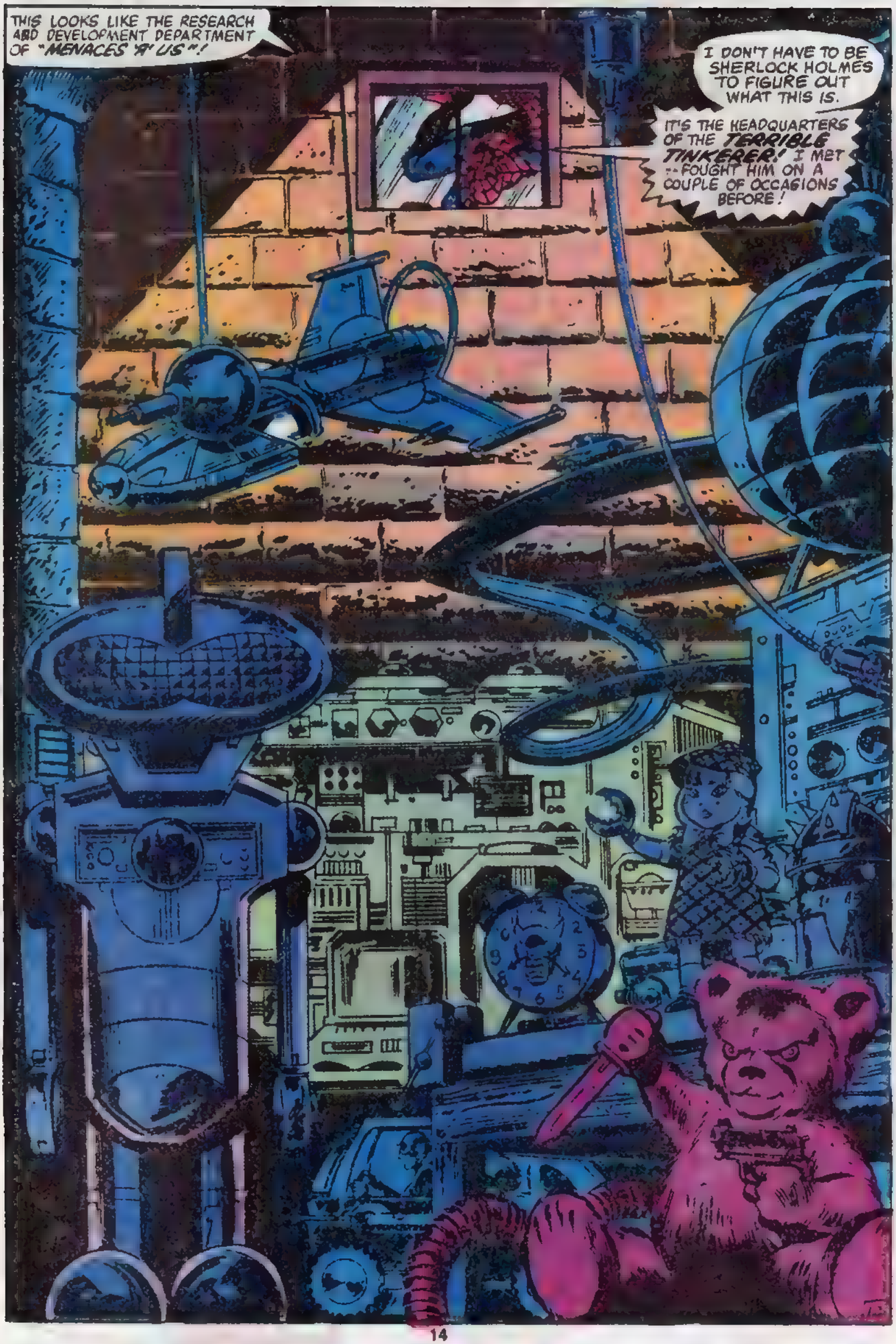

FOCUSING HIS SPIDER-SENSES, SPIDER-MAN FACES ONE DIRECTION -- THEN ANOTHER -- UNTIL HE DETECTS AN EVER-SO-FAINT SIGNAL ...
THERE'S MY BABY! NORTH AND EAST!

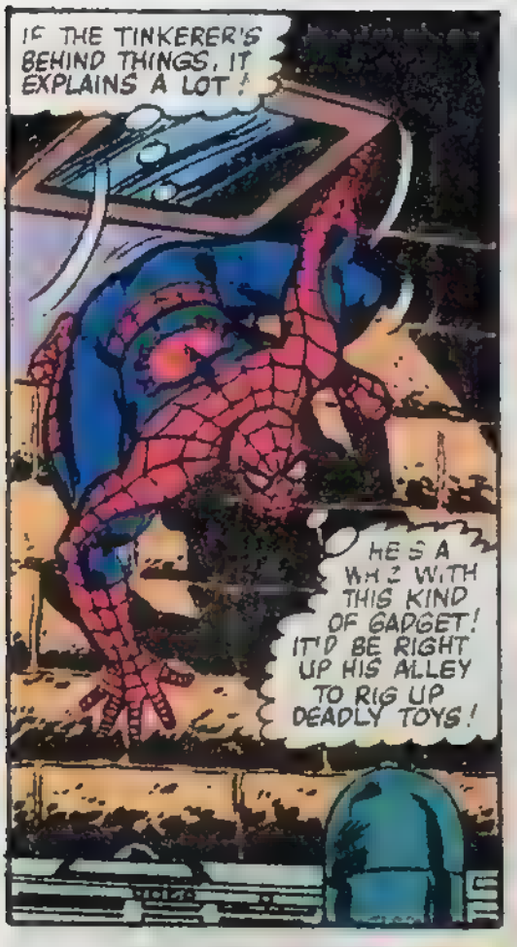

AHHH--I LOVE THIS! FRESH AIR... EXERCISE... MORTAL DANGER! I'VE GOTTA BE NUTS!
HOLD IT! THERE'S THE SIGNAL--I'M PRACTICALLY ON TOP OF IT!


AND IT SEEMS TO BE COMING FROM THAT BUILDING! A FIX-IT SHOP, EH?
FIX

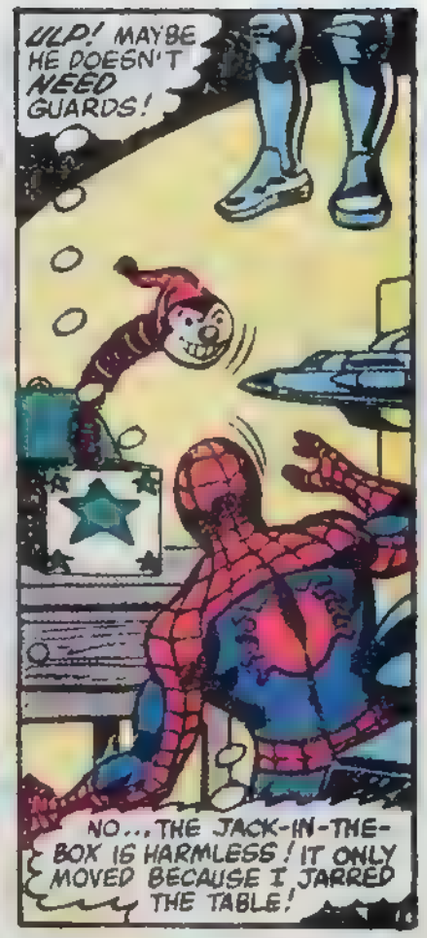

SURE, THAT MAKES SENSE! THE TINKERER HAD A SIMILAR SHOP THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM!
MAYBE I SHOULD FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON BEFORE I BULL MY WAY INTO IT!

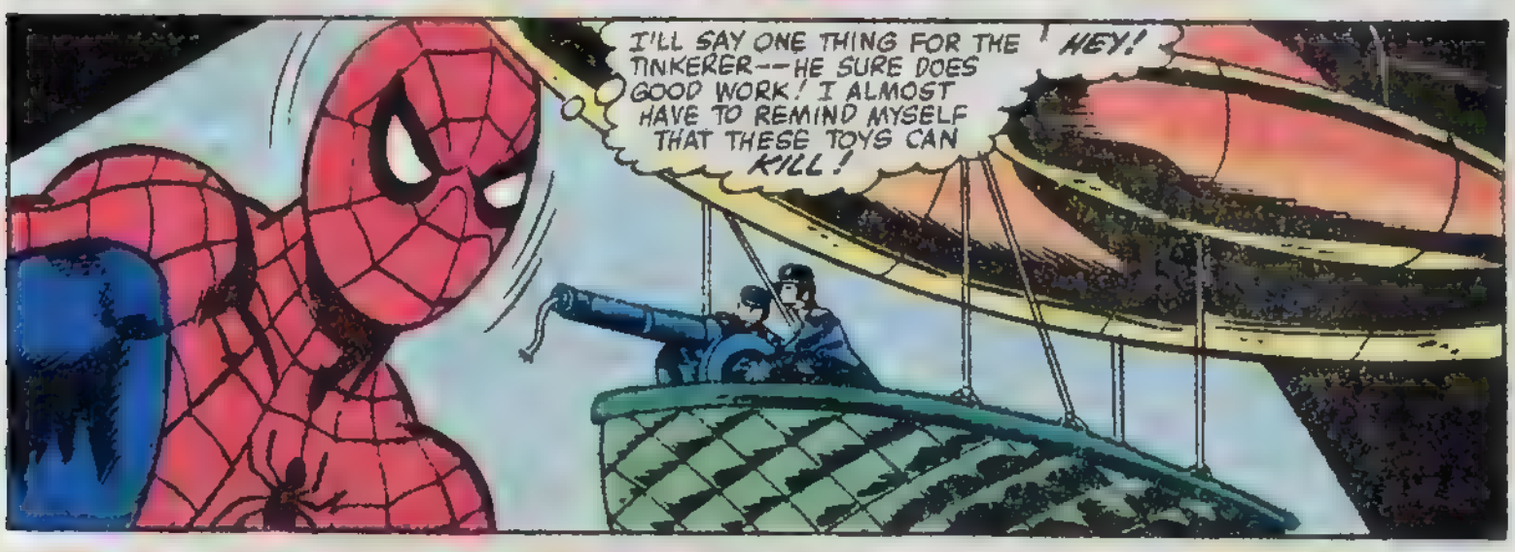

LET'S TAKE A LOOK DOWN THE OL' AIR SHAFT AND SEE WHAT WE CAN SEE!

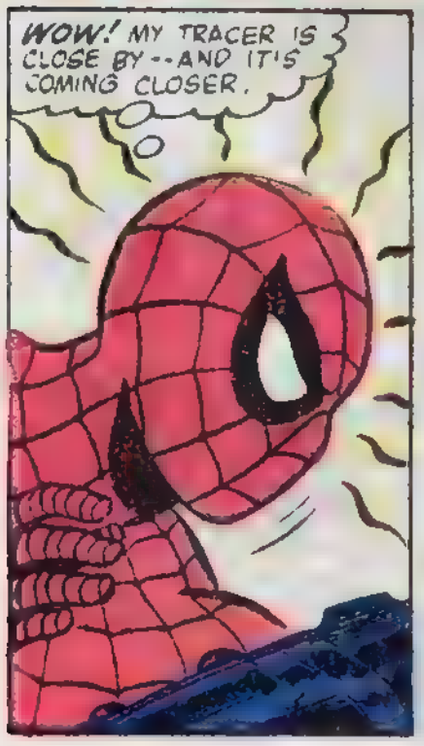

THIS LOOKS LIKE THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF "MENACES 'R' US"!
I DON'T HAVE TO BE SHERLOCK HOLMES TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THIS IS.
IT'S THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE TERRIBLE TINKERER! I MET -- FOUGHT HIM ON A COUPLE OF OCCASIONS BEFORE!

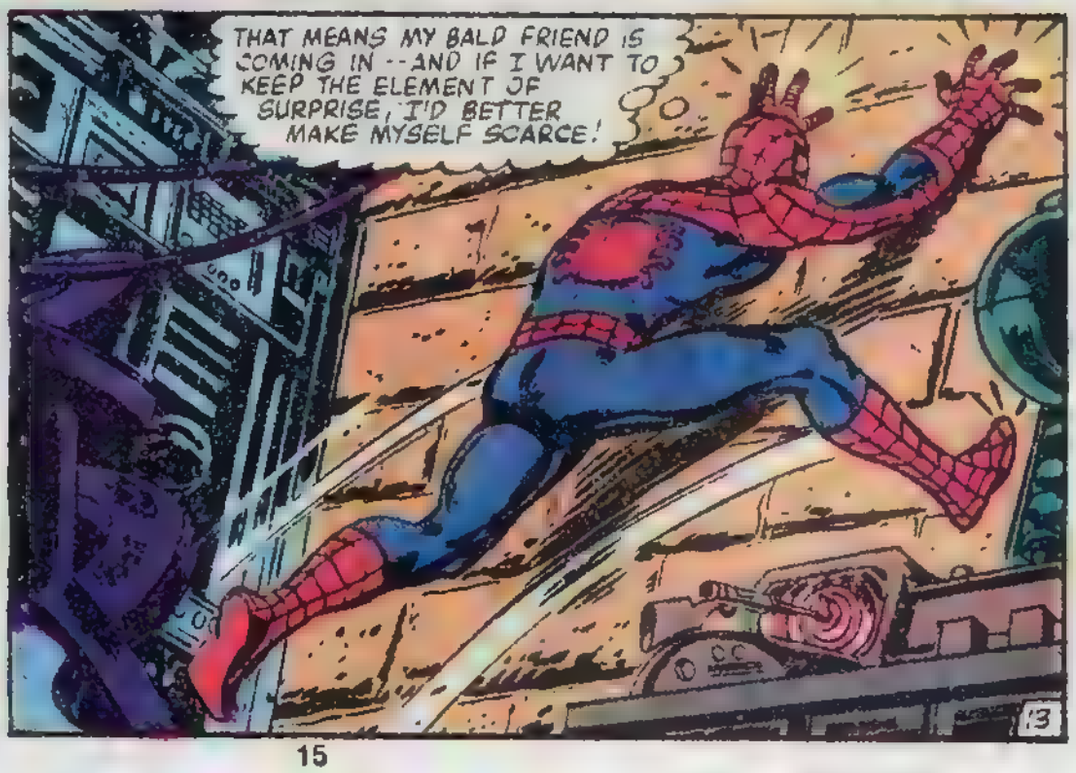

IF THE TINKERER'S BEHIND THINGS, IT EXPLAINS A LOT!
HE'S A WHIZ WITH THIS KIND OF GADGET! IT'D BE RIGHT UP HIS ALLEY TO RIG UP DEADLY TOYS!

NO ONE AROUND--AND THE PLACE ISN'T GUARDED!


ULP! MAYBE HE DOESN'T NEED GUARDS!
NO... THE JACK-IN-THE-BOX IS HARMLESS! IT ONLY MOVED BECAUSE I JARRED THE TABLE!


I'LL SAY ONE THING FOR THE TINKERER--HE SURE DOES GOOD WORK! I ALMOST HAVE TO REMIND MYSELF THAT THESE TOYS CAN KILL!
HEY!


WOW! MY TRACER IS CLOSE BY--AND IT'S COMING CLOSER.


THAT MEANS MY BALD FRIEND IS COMING IN--AND IF I WANT TO KEEP THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE, I'D BETTER MAKE MYSELF SCARCE!
13

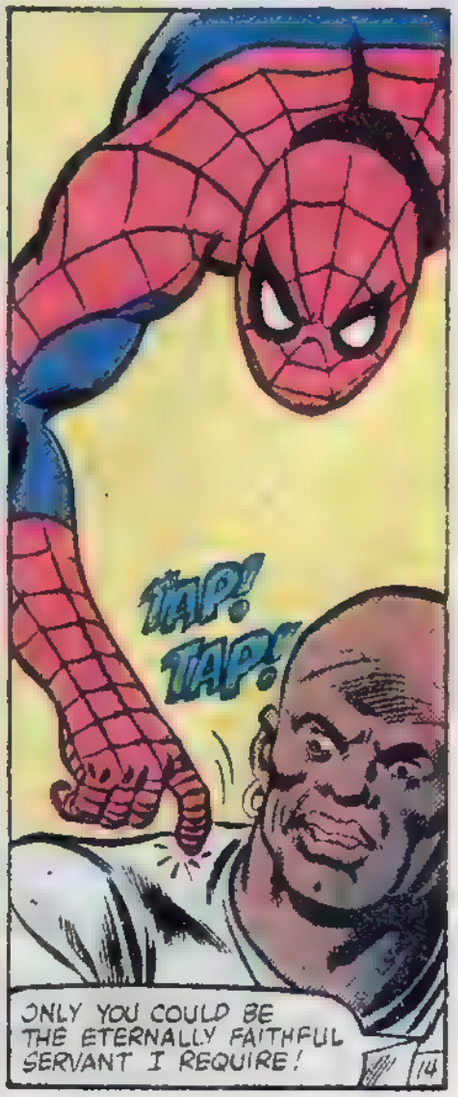
THAT'S CURLY, ALL RIGHT--AND IT DOESN'T TAKE A GENIUS TO FIGURE OUT THE TINKERER'S WITH HIM!
ENTER, MASTER!
THANK YOU, TOY!

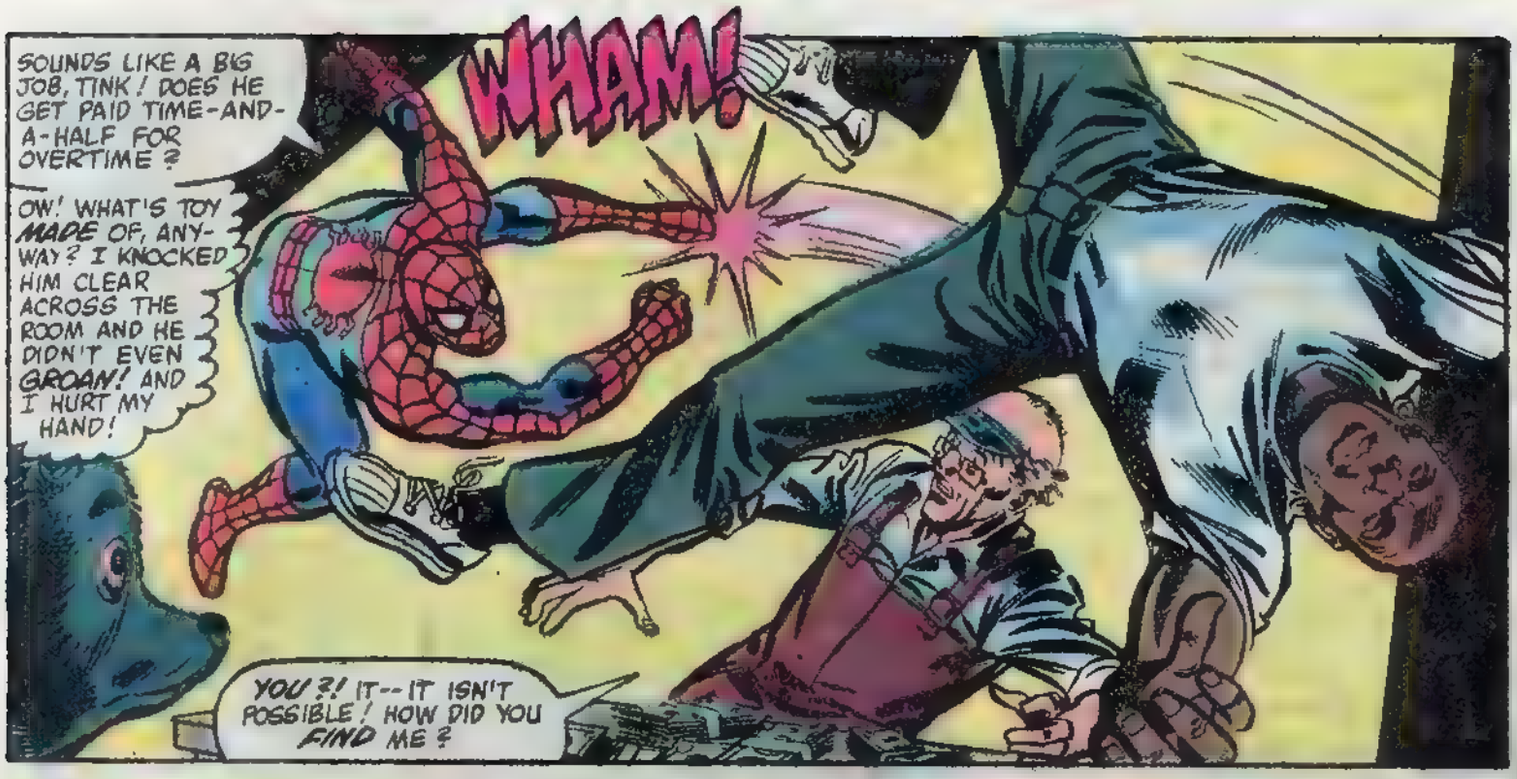
YOU'VE MADE THIS A GLORIOUS DAY! NOT ONLY ARE WE SEVERAL THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS RICHER, BUT YOU'VE PROVEN CAPABLE OF BEATING SPIDER-MAN -- AS I INTENDED!

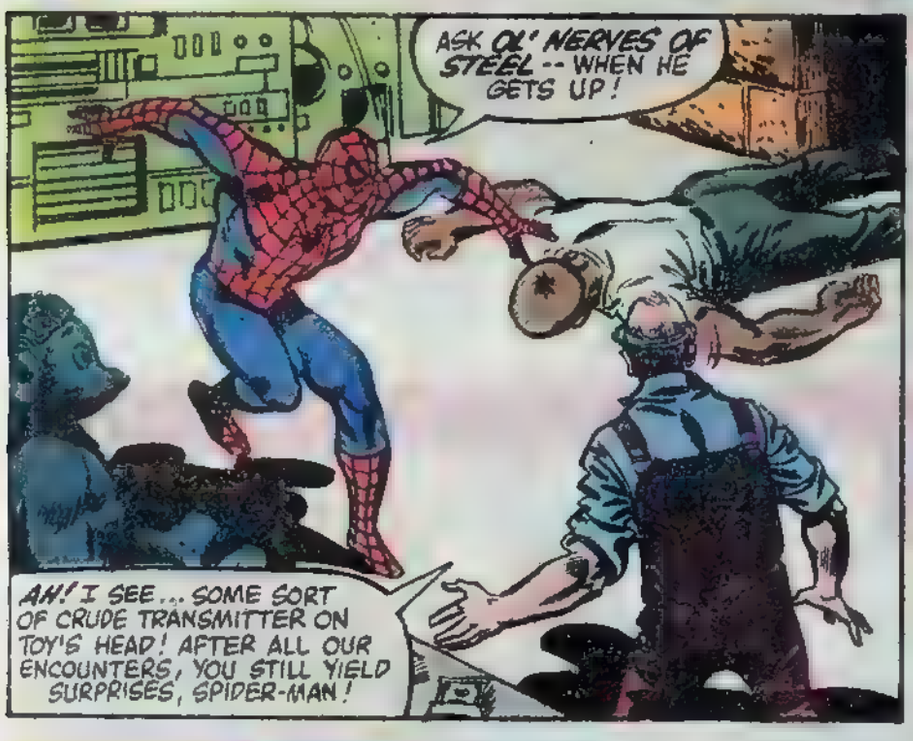
I HAVE BUILT SPECIAL WEAPONS FOR THE UNDERWORLD LONG ENOUGH, MY DEAR FRIEND!
THEY WOULD NO LONGER MEET MY PRICES -- SO WE WILL PROFIT FROM MY MATCHLESS MACHINES INSTEAD! IN ESSENCE, WE HAVE ELIMINATED THE MIDDLEMAN!

SOON, WE SHALL HAVE WEALTH BEYOND IMAGINING!
BUT I FORGET --MONEY MEANS NOTHING TO YOU, TOY! THAT IS WHY YOU ARE MY ONLY FRIEND!

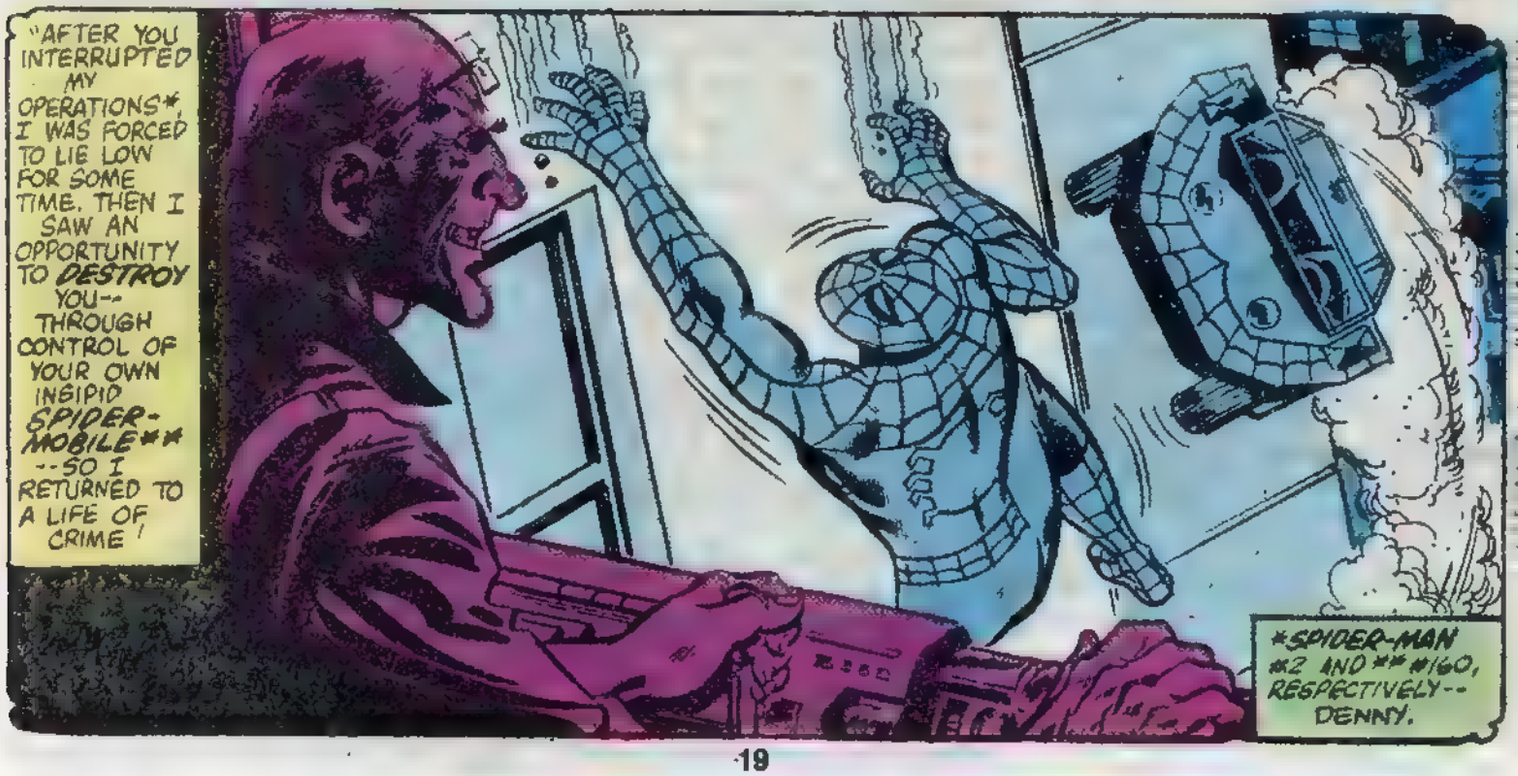
GOOD! TINK'S VISOR KEEPS HIM FROM SEEING ME UP HERE -- AND TOY SEEMS ENGROSSED BY HIS JABBERING!
NO ONE COULD BE AS TRUSTWORTHY AS YOU ARE, TOY!

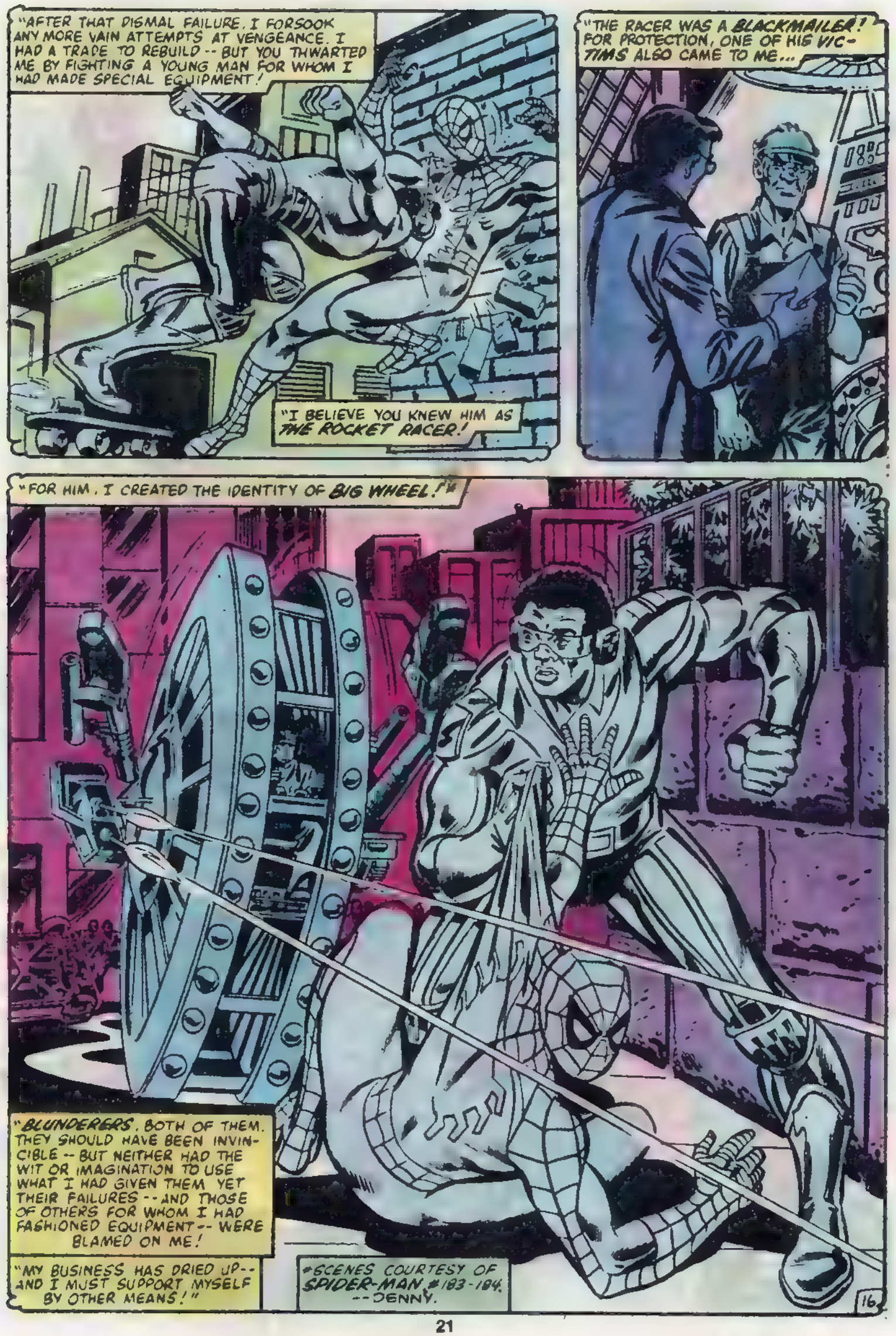

TAP! TAP!
ONLY YOU COULD BE THE ETERNALLY FAITHFUL SERVANT I REQUIRE!
14

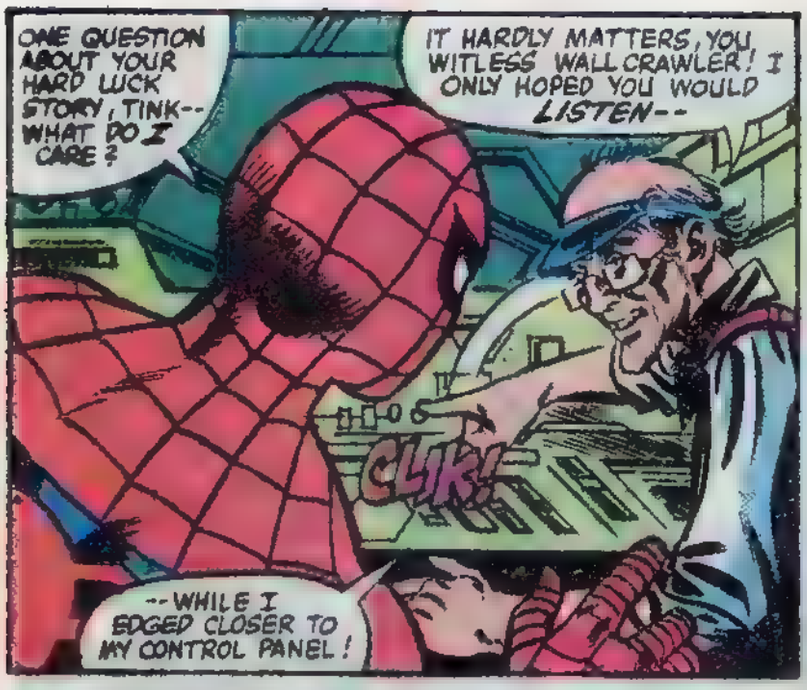

SOUNDS LIKE A BIG JOB, TINK! DOES HE GET PAID TIME-AND-A-HALF FOR OVERTIME?
WHAM!
OW! WHAT'S TOY MADE OF, ANYWAY? I KNOCKED HIM CLEAR ACROSS THE ROOM AND HE DIDN'T EVEN GROAN! AND I HURT MY HAND!
YOU?! IT--IT ISN'T POSSIBLE! HOW DID YOU FIND ME?


ASK OL' NERVES OF STEEL -- WHEN HE GETS UP!
AH! I SEE... SOME SORT OF CRUDE TRANSMITTER ON TOY'S HEAD! AFTER ALL OUR ENCOUNTERS, YOU STILL YIELD SURPRISES, SPIDER-MAN!

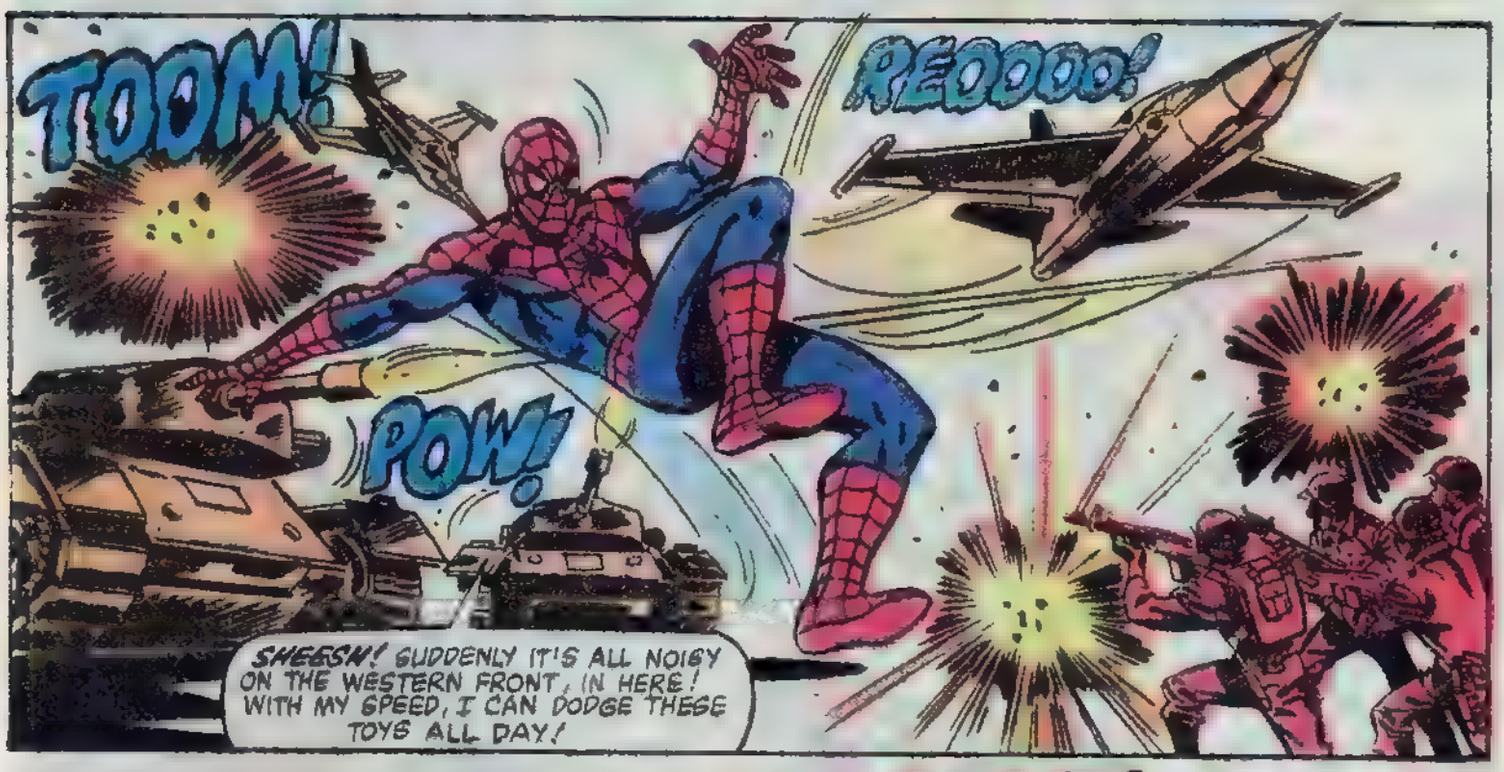
ALL OUR ENCOUNTERS?! I ONLY MET YOU TWICE, TINK!
NOT SO, YOU COSTUMED BUFFOON!


"AFTER YOU INTERRUPTED MY OPERATIONS*, I WAS FORCED TO LIE LOW FOR SOME TIME. THEN I SAW AN OPPORTUNITY TO DESTROY YOU-- THROUGH CONTROL OF YOUR OWN INSIPID SPIDER-MOBILE** --SO I RETURNED TO A LIFE OF CRIME!
*SPIDER-MAN #2 AND ** #160, RESPECTIVELY-- DENNY.

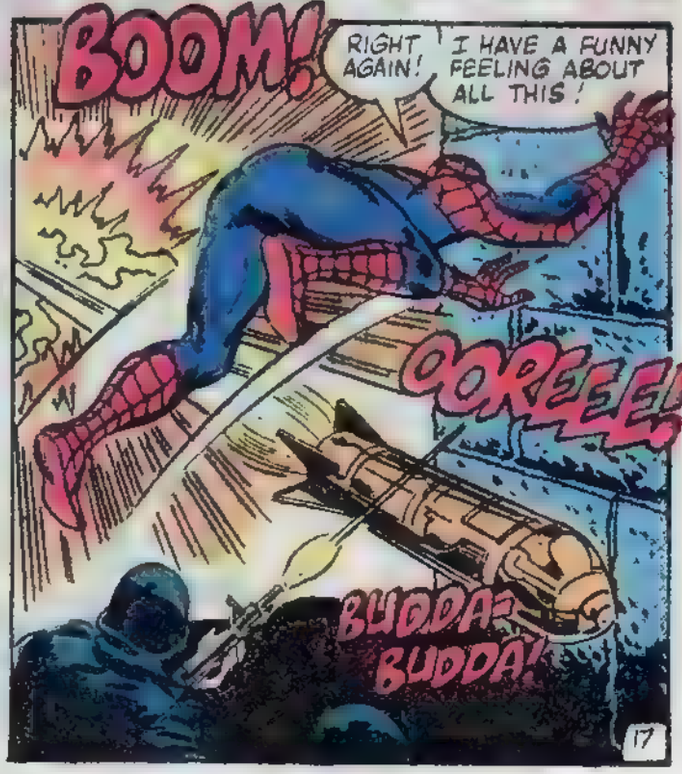

"AFTER THAT DISMAL FAILURE, I FORSOOK ANY MORE VAIN ATTEMPTS AT VENGEANCE. I HAD A TRADE TO REBUILD -- BUT YOU THWARTED ME BY FIGHTING A YOUNG MAN FOR WHOM I HAD MADE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT!
"I BELIEVE YOU KNEW HIM AS THE ROCKET RACER!
"THE RACER WAS A BLACKMAILER! FOR PROTECTION, ONE OF HIS VICTIMS ALSO CAME TO ME...
"FOR HIM, I CREATED THE IDENTITY OF BIG WHEEL!"
"BLUNDERERS, BOTH OF THEM. THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN INVINCIBLE -- BUT NEITHER HAD THE WIT OR IMAGINATION TO USE WHAT I HAD GIVEN THEM. YET THEIR FAILURES -- AND THOSE OF OTHERS FOR WHOM I HAD FASHIONED EQUIPMENT -- WERE BLAMED ON ME!
"MY BUSINESS HAS DRIED UP -- AND I MUST SUPPORT MYSELF BY OTHER MEANS!"
*SCENES COURTESY OF SPIDER-MAN #183-184. -- DENNY.
16

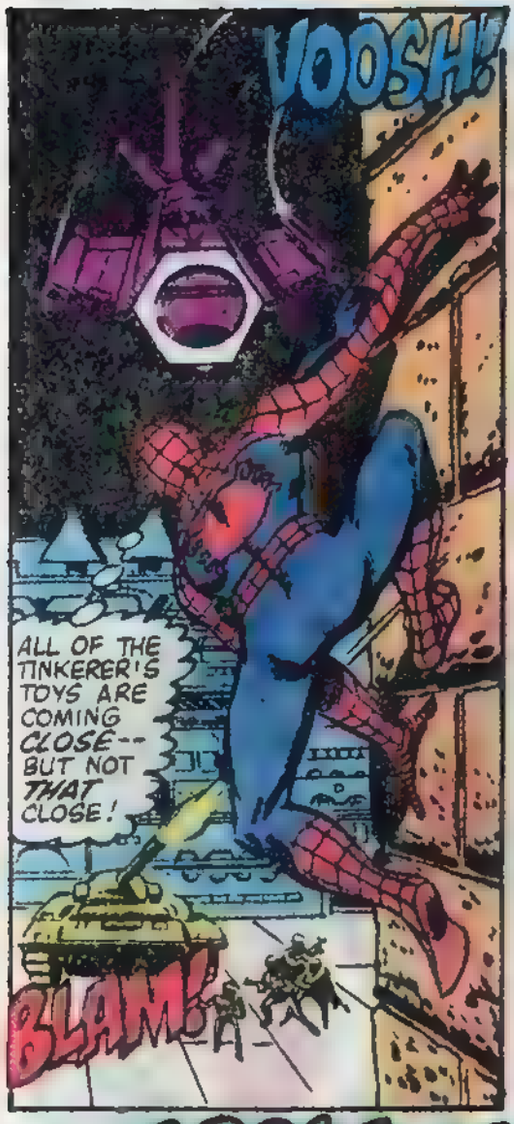

ONE QUESTION ABOUT YOUR HARD LUCK STORY, TINK-- WHAT DO I CARE?
IT HARDLY MATTERS, YOU WITLESS WALL CRAWLER! I ONLY HOPED YOU WOULD LISTEN--
CLIK!
--WHILE I EDGED CLOSER TO MY CONTROL PANEL!

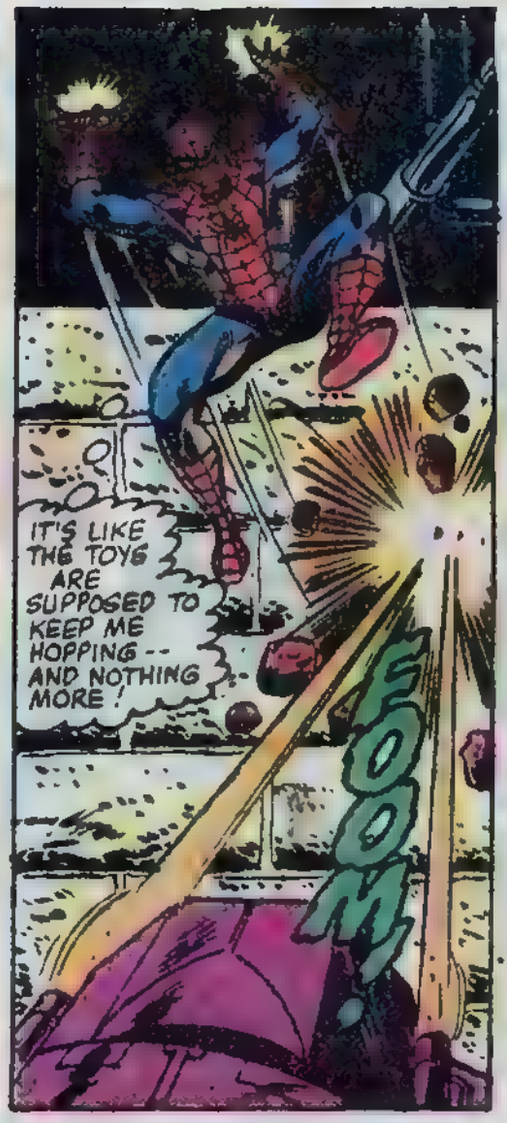
THAT TINGLE! GOTTA DUCK!
BUD!
BUM!
IMPACT SHELLS --COMING AT ME! SPIDER-SENSES, I LOVE YOU!

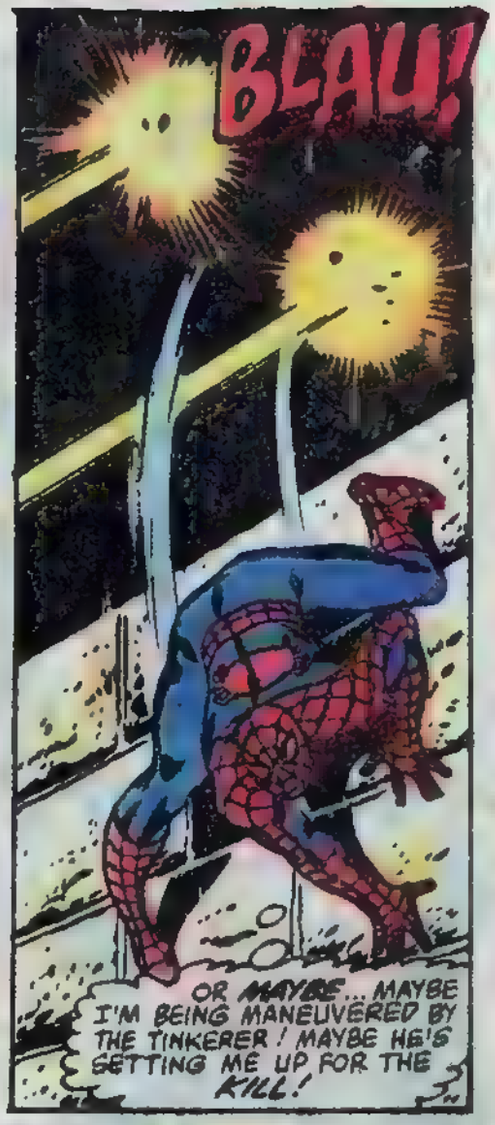

TOOM!
REOOOO!
POW!
SHEESH! SUDDENLY IT'S ALL NOISY ON THE WESTERN FRONT, IN HERE! WITH MY SPEED, I CAN DODGE THESE TOYS ALL DAY!

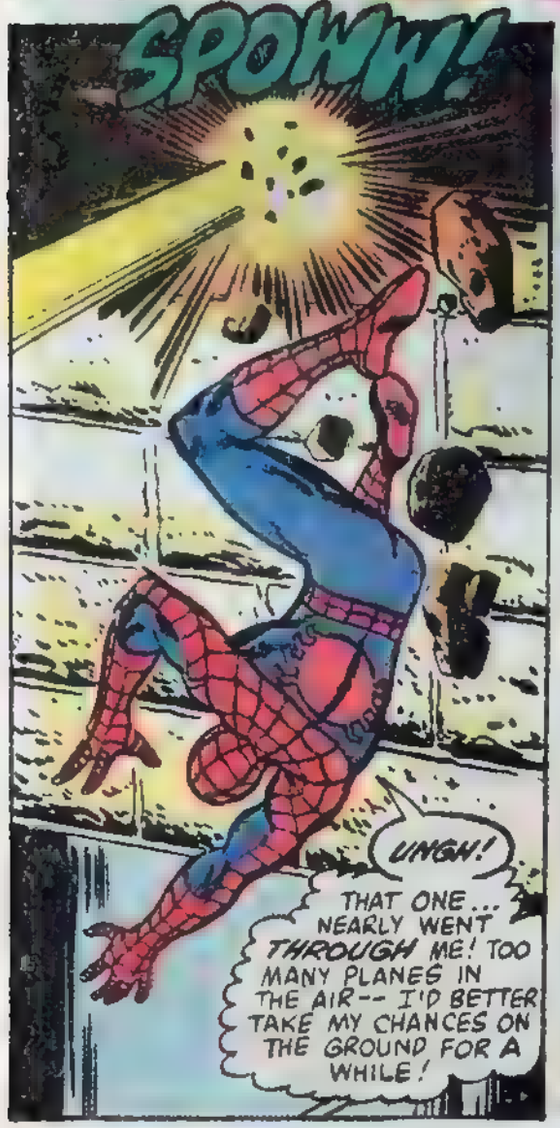
...BUT THAT WOULD BE A REAL BORE. UH-OH!
BAD MOVE, SPIDEY! THESE PINT-SIZED PATTONS LOOK DOWNRIGHT UNPLEASANT!

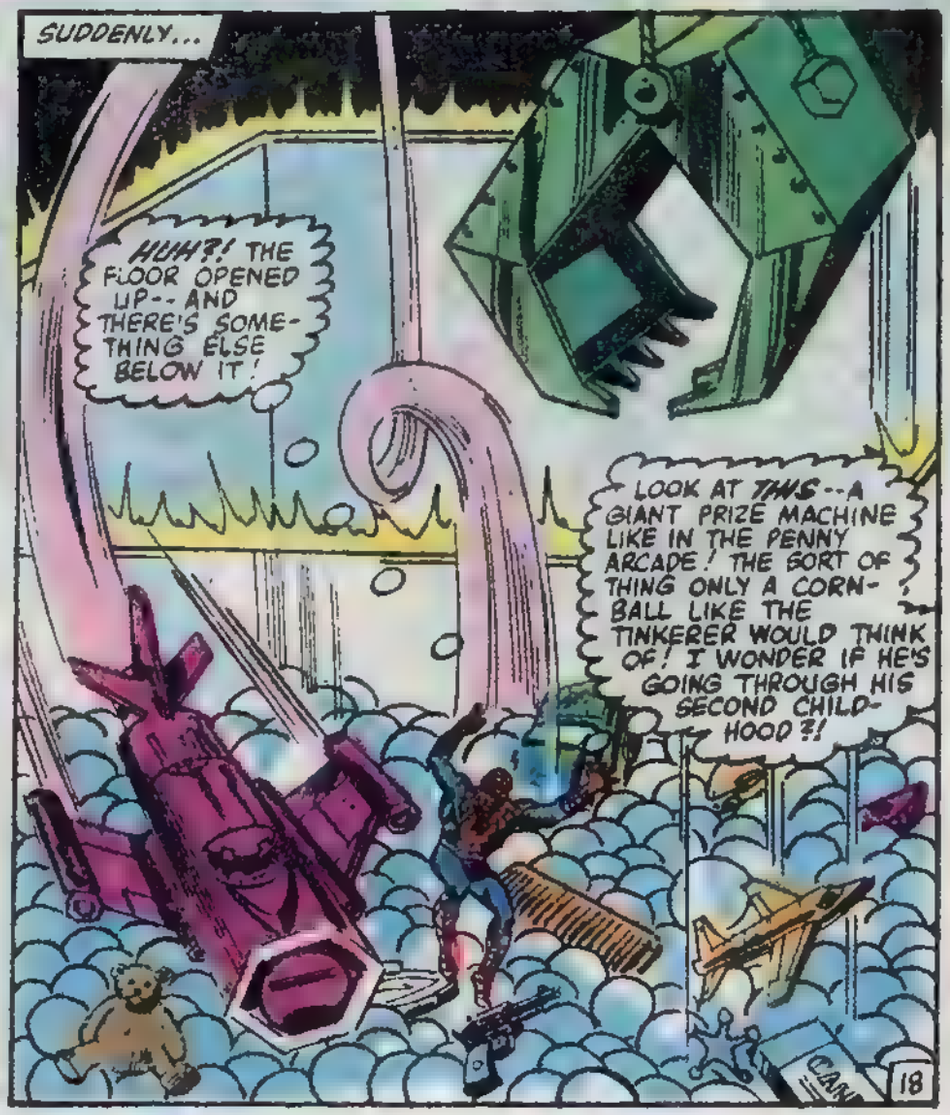

BOOM!
RIGHT AGAIN!
I HAVE A FUNNY FEELING ABOUT ALL THIS!
OOREEE!
BUDDA-BUDDA!
17

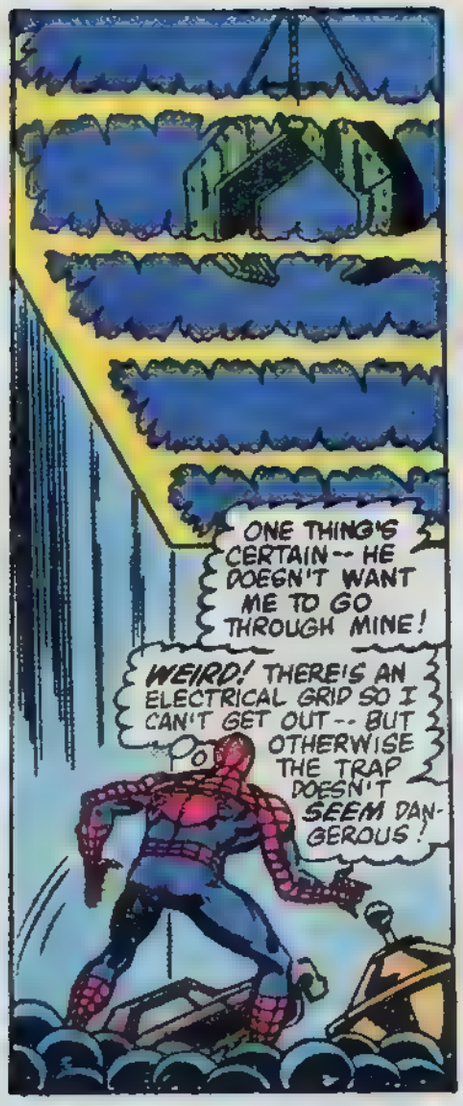

VOOSH!
ALL OF THE TINKERER'S TOYS ARE COMING CLOSE-- BUT NOT THAT CLOSE!
BLAM!

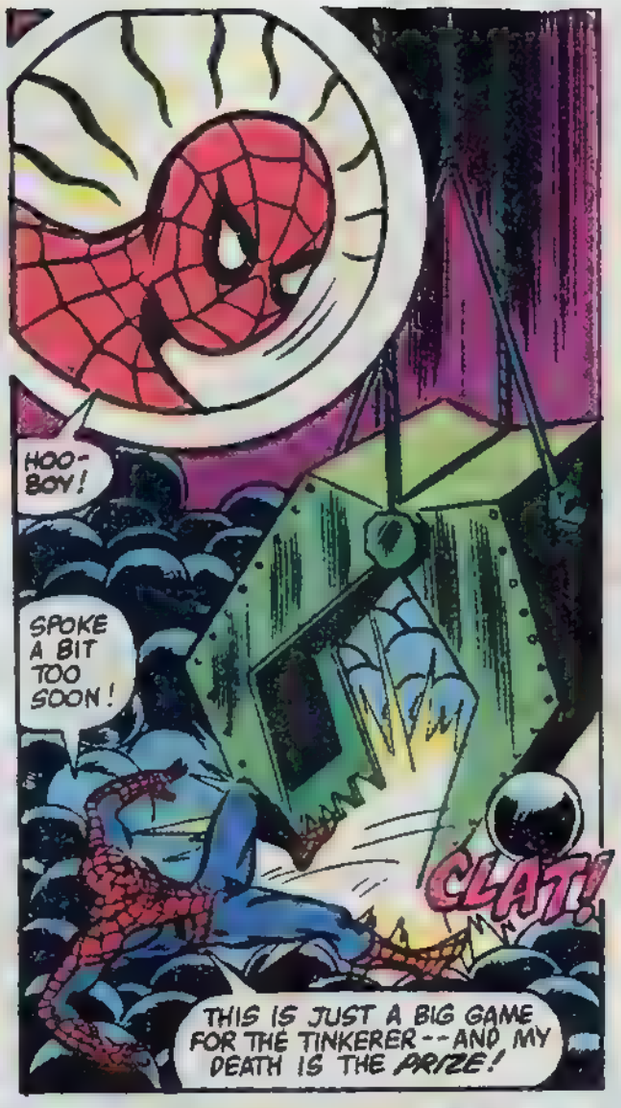

IT'S LIKE THE TOYS ARE SUPPOSED TO KEEP ME HOPPING -- AND NOTHING MORE!
FOOM!

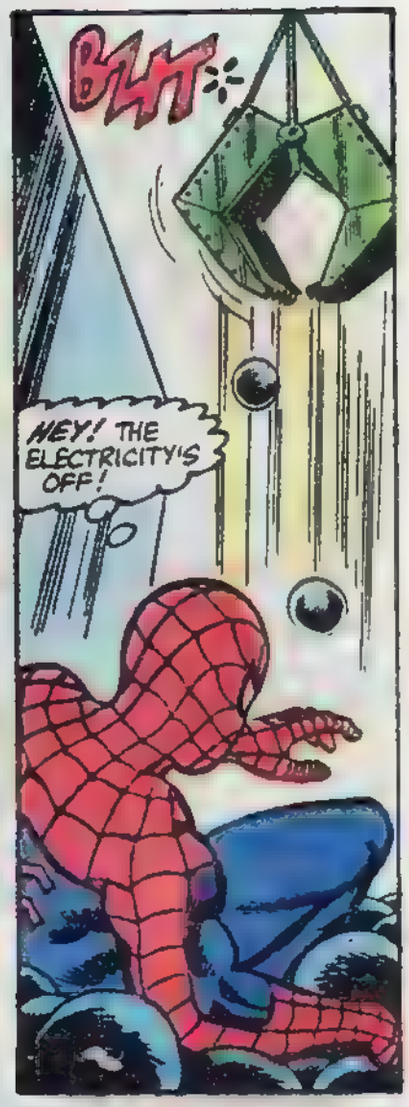

BLAU!
OR MAYBE... MAYBE I'M BEING MANEUVERED BY THE TINKERER! MAYBE HE'S SETTING ME UP FOR THE KILL!

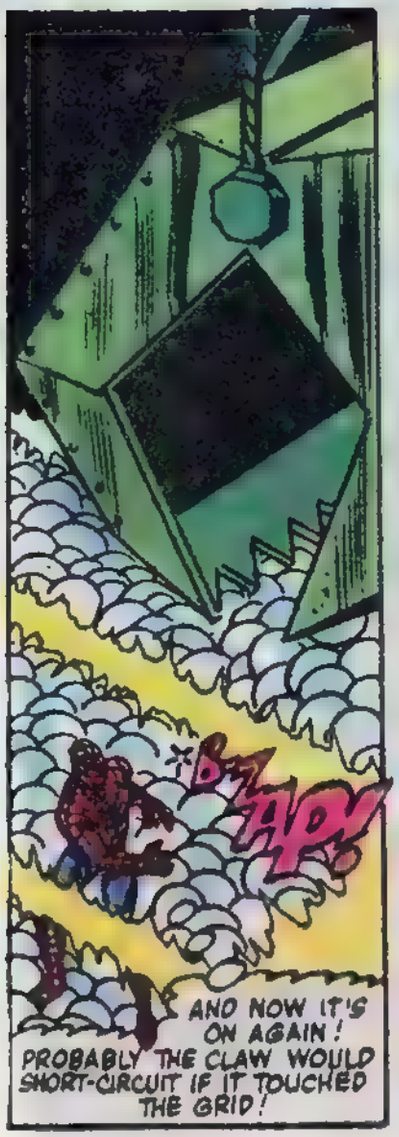

SPOWW!
UNGH!
THAT ONE... NEARLY WENT THROUGH ME! TOO MANY PLANES IN THE AIR-- I'D BETTER TAKE MY CHANCES ON THE GROUND FOR A WHILE!

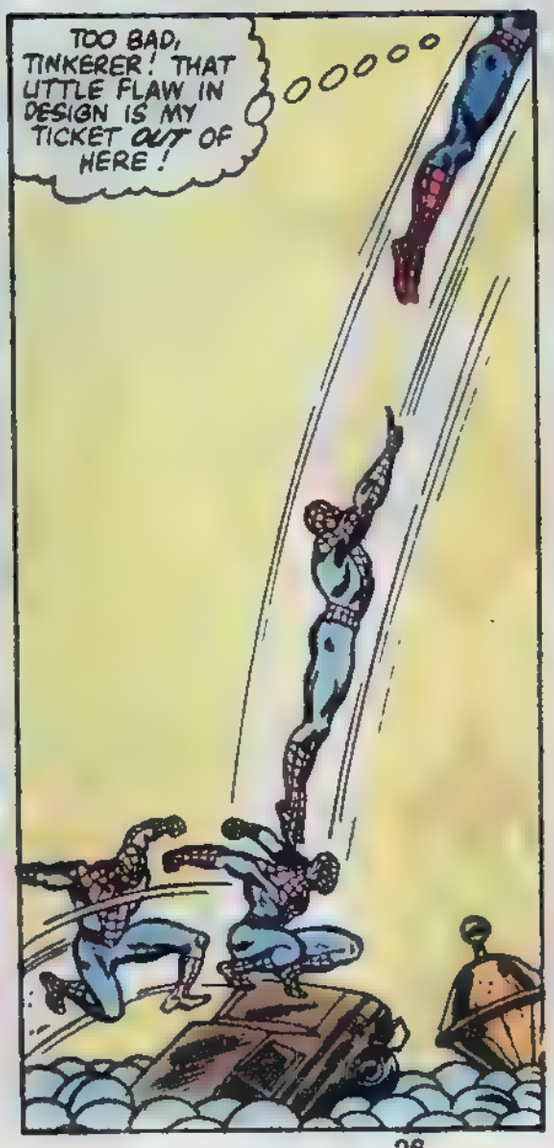

SUDDENLY...
HUH?! THE FLOOR OPENED UP-- AND THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE BELOW IT!
LOOK AT THIS--A GIANT PRIZE MACHINE LIKE IN THE PENNY ARCADE! THE SORT OF THING ONLY A CORNBALL LIKE THE TINKERER WOULD THINK OF! I WONDER IF HE'S GOING THROUGH HIS SECOND CHILDHOOD?!
18

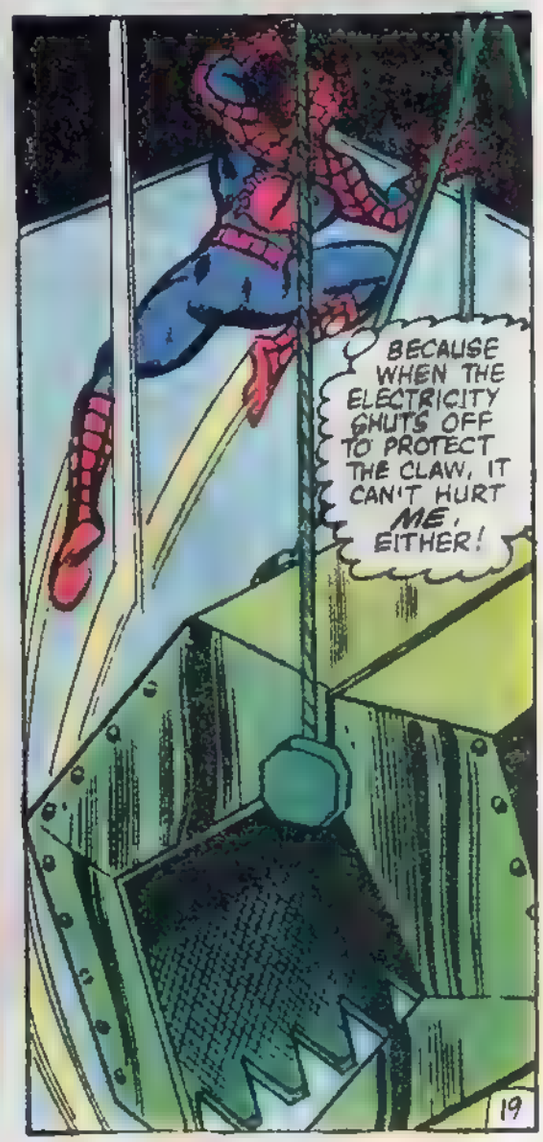

ONE THING'S CERTAIN -- HE DOEGN'T WANT ME TO GO THROUGH MINE!
WEIRD! THERE'S AN ELECTRICAL GRID SO I CAN'T GET OUT -- BUT OTHERWISE THE TRAP DOESN'T SEEM DANGEROUS!


HOO-BOY!
SPOKE A BIT TOO SOON!
CLAT!
THIS IS JUST A BIG GAME FOR THE TINKERER -- AND MY DEATH IS THE PRIZE!


BLIT
HEY! THE ELECTRICITY'S OFF!


BZZZAP!
AND NOW IT'S ON AGAIN! PROBABLY THE CLAW WOULD SHORT-CIRCUIT IF IT TOUCHED THE GRID!


TOO BAD, TINKERER! THAT LITTLE FLAW IN DESIGN IS MY TICKET OUT OF HERE!

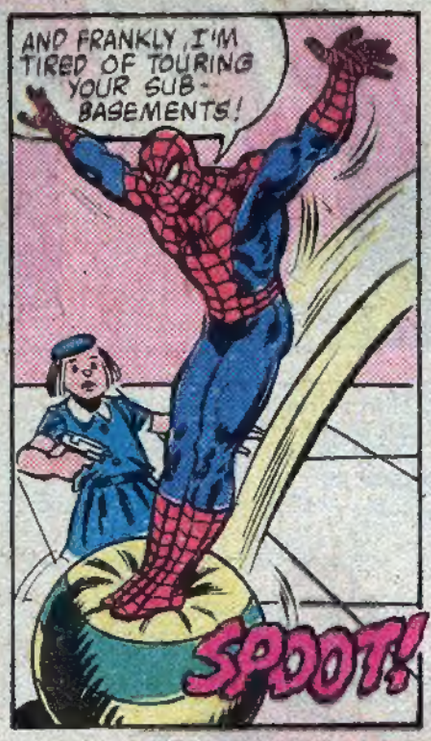

BECAUSE WHEN THE ELECTRICITY SHUTS OFF TO PROTECT THE CLAW, IT CAN'T HURT ME, EITHER!
19

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT TRAP, TINK?
MACY'S BARGAIN BASEMENT?
A SPECIAL ORDER, ACTUALLY --FOR SOMEONE NAMED ARCADE. HE REFUSED PAYMENT. I KEPT IT.

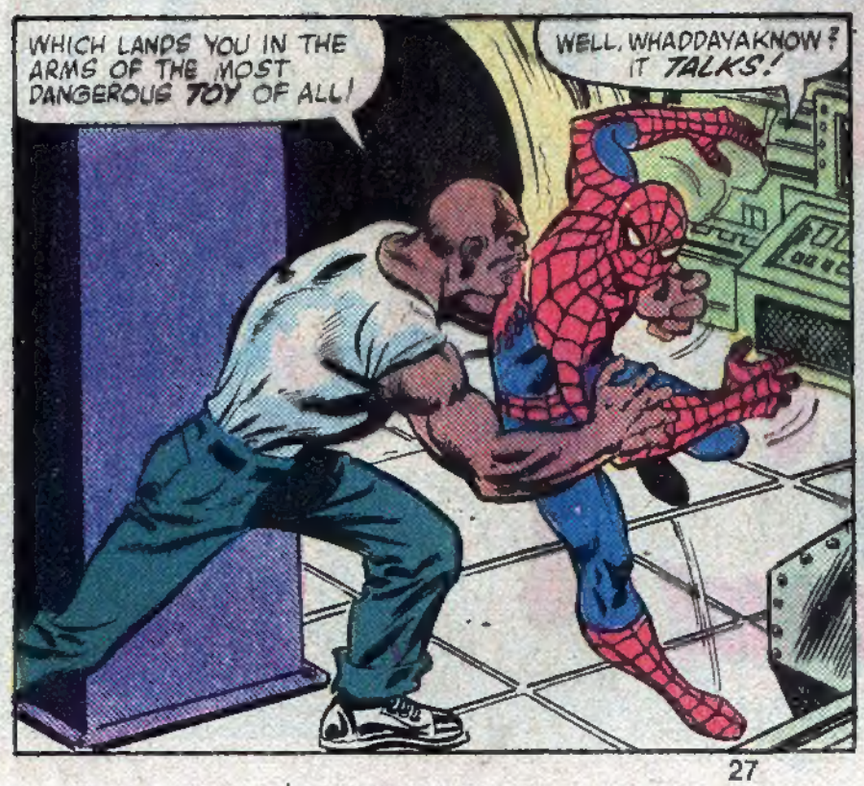
MUCH EQUIPMENT IS HERE FOR THAT REASON--
--SUCH AS THE TRICK STAIRS YOU'VE LANDED ON!

ENJOY YOUR RIDE DOWN THE RAMP, SPIDER-MAN! IT'S THE LAST RIDE YOU'LL EVER TAKE!
I'M SURE YOU'RE DYING TO PLAY WITH MY TERRIBLE TOYS!

TERRIBLE IS RIGHT! I'VE SEEN BETTER LOOKING DOLLS IN CHRISTMAS REJECT PILES!
PAW!

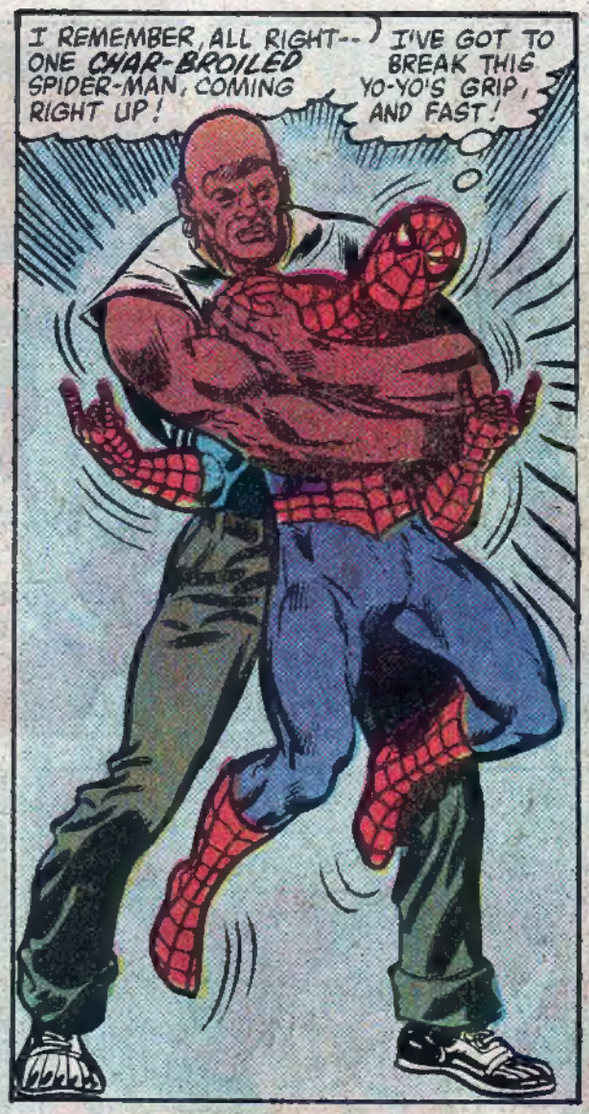

AND FRANKLY, I'M TIRED OF TOURING YOUR SUB-BASEMENTS!
SPOOT!

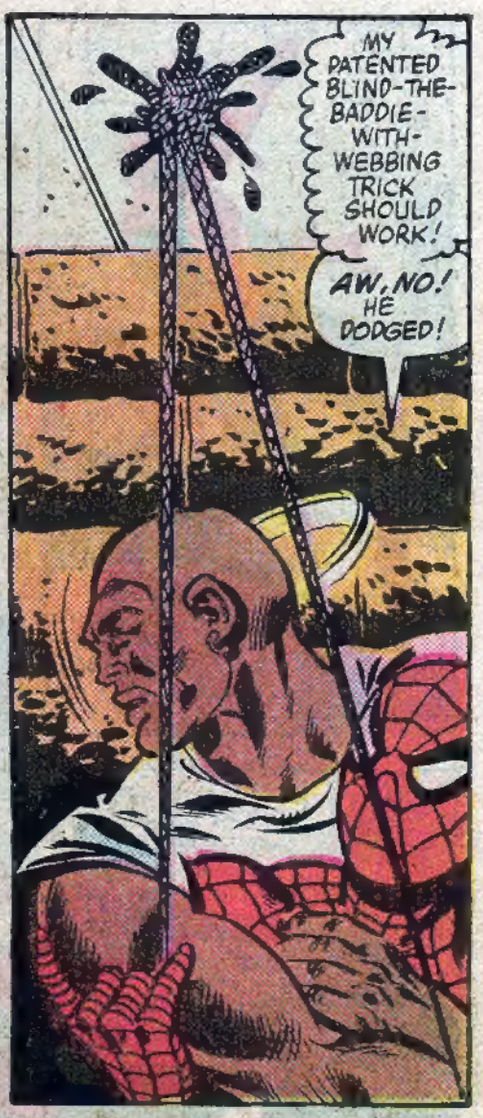
OR, TO COIN A PHRASE:
"UP, UP AND AWAY!"
FOMP!


WHICH LANDS YOU IN THE ARMS OF THE MOST DANGEROUS TOY OF ALL!
WELL, WHADDAYAKNOW? IT TALKS!

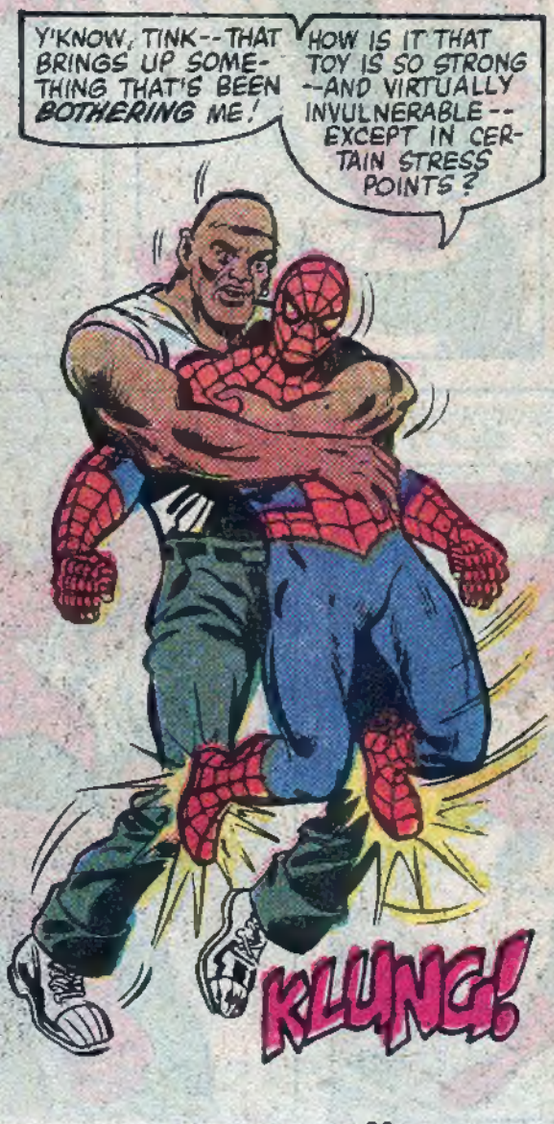
DO NOT TAUNT ME, SPIDER-MAN!
ARRGH! MY RIBS!
20

ENOUGH, TOY! LET ME KILL HIM!
I TRUST YOU RECOGNIZE THIS GUN FROM OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER, SPIDER-MAN-- AND YOU REMEMBER WHAT IT CAN DO!

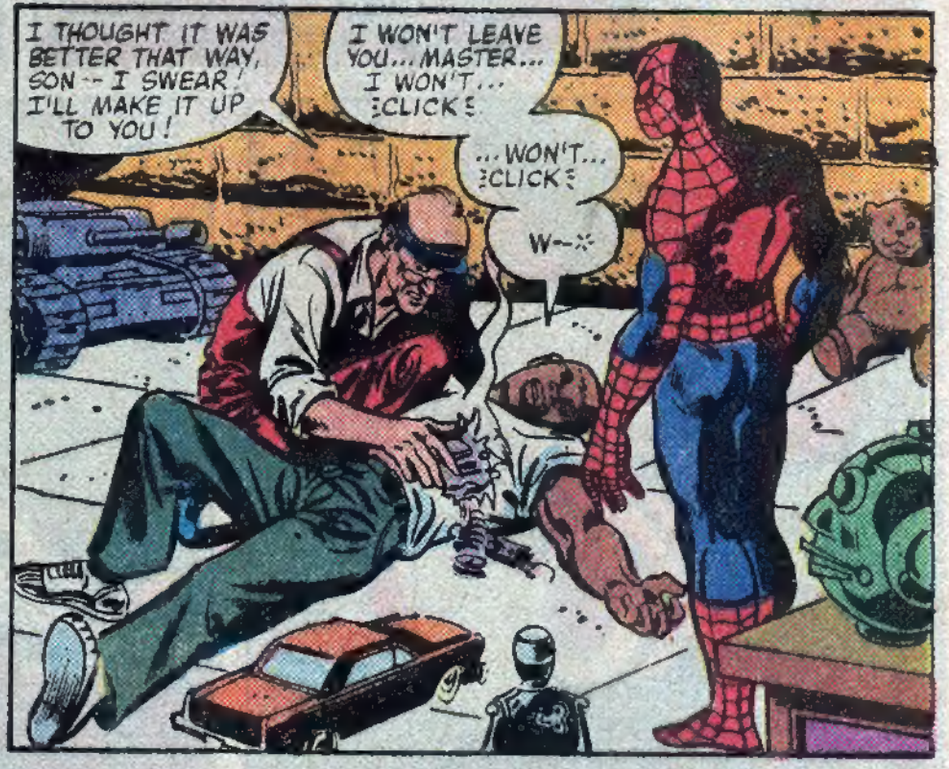

I REMEMBER, ALL RIGHT-- ONE CHAR-BROILED SPIDER-MAN, COMING RIGHT UP!
I'VE GOT TO BREAK THIS YO-YO'S GRIP, AND FAST!

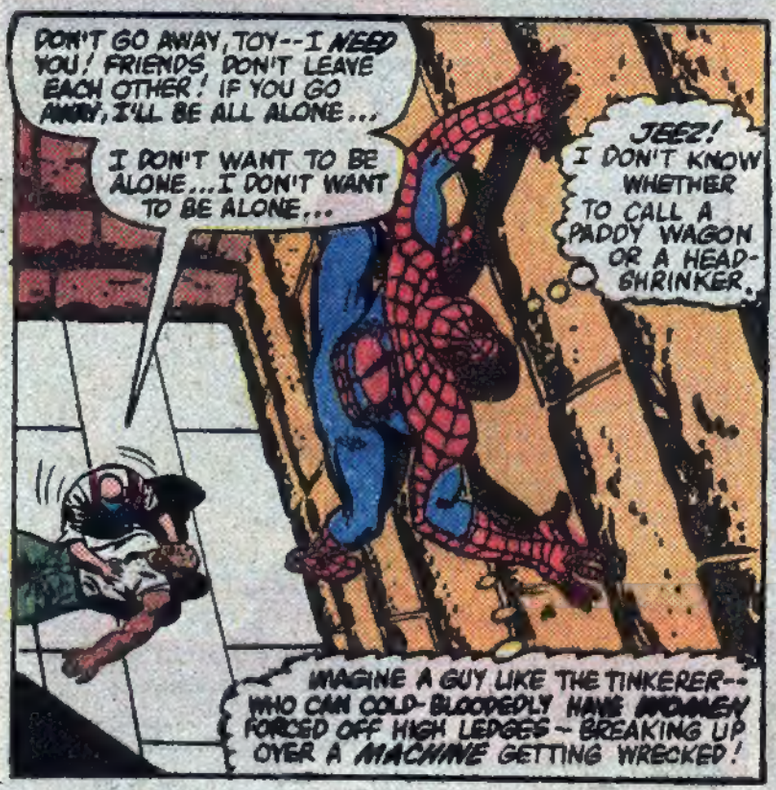

MY PATENTED BLIND-THE-BADDIE-WITH-WEBBING TRICK SHOULD WORK!
AW, NO! HE DODGED!

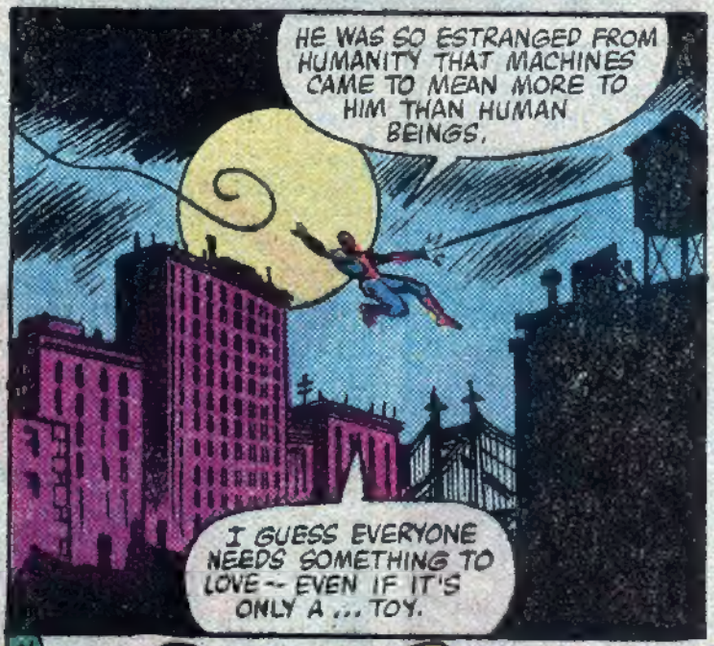
DON'T TRY TO PULL YOURSELF OUT OF HIS ARMS, EITHER! TOY IS STRONGER THAN ANY MAN! HE IS AS FAR BEYOND YOU IN STRENGTH AS YOU ARE BEYOND ME!


Y'KNOW, TINK--THAT BRINGS UP SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME!
HOW IS IT THAT TOY IS SO STRONG --AND VIRTUALLY INVULNERABLE -- EXCEPT IN CERTAIN STRESS POINTS?
KLUNG!

M-MASTER?
FURTHERMORE, HOW COULD HE BE CARRIED BY A TINY PROPELLER WITH NO VISIBLE POWER SOURCE?
UNLESS, OF COURSE, TOY HIMSELF WAS THE POWER SOURCE....?
21







NEXT: TO SAVE the SMUGGLER!

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAIL

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP
575 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

DENNIS O'NEIL
EDITOR
MARK GRUENWALD
ASSISTANT EDITOR

BEFORE WE START...

I'd just like to thank Bill Mantlo, Jim Mooney, and Frank Springer for stepping in and lending a hand to ease the old schedule pressures. Marie will be back next issue with a story which has more than a few surprises built into it...for Spider-Man and, hopefully, for you!

And now, on with the mail!

--Roger Stern

Dear Roger,

Aunt May's getting engaged?!?

I must admit that I'm surprised. I never thought you would do such a thing. Frankly, I never even thought of it at all! I can't wait until SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #50, so I can see what Nathan Lubensky is like. Things are really happening nowadays!

Spider-Man's fight with the Smuggler was well done. It was just great the way Spidey wised off to the Smuggler on page 18, and paid the price for it!

But I do have a question. Why is it that whenever one of Spider-Man's web-shooters runs out of webbing, the other one has little or no fluid left as well?

As for the WHITE TIGER mini-series, the mood was great and the flashback good, but I'd really rather see more pages of Spider-Man.

Mark Nemetz
45 Laurel Avenue
Clifton, NJ 07012

More pages of Spider-Man? You've got 'em, Mark!

As for the matter of Spider-Man's web-shooters, most of the problem relates to plain old bad luck. Spider-Man usually loads his web-shooters at the same time, and as the cartridges hold about the same amount of we-fluid, it stands to reason that they'd run out at about the same time.

Dear Fellows,

Just thought I'd throw you a line on that slight error on page 19, wherein you state that Spider-Man fought Luke Cage in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #122. Now, as all long-time Spider-fans know, that was the issue in which the original Green Goblin bit the dust. Spider-Man didn't fight Mister Cage until an issue later in #123. Errors like this, though, can be forgiven when the story is as excellent as "Enter: the Smuggler!"

And that bit about Aunt May's engagement was a nice touch. It couldn't happen to a nicer gal. Hmm...May Parker Lubensky...might take a bit of getting used to, but who knows? I don't know for sure if Aunt May will go through with it, but if Foggy Nelson can get married, then so can dear old Aunt May.

Thanks for the unexpected, and make mine Marvel!

Jim Clark
707 East Palm Avenue
Redlands, CA 92373

Dear Roger,

This is the first time I have ever written to Marvel Comics, but after reading SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #49, I just had to write to say...THANK YOU! Putting the White Tiger into his own series— even if it is only a mini-series— is fantastic.

At first, I never really liked the White Tiger...mainly because I knew nothing about him. I didn't even know his origin. But, as his appearances in SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN became more frequent, and you gave us glimpses of his personality, and more characterization, I thought to myself, "This guy's got potential!" Well, now you've given him his big chance. However I do think that it's still too early to start thinking about giving the Tiger his own magazine. Let's see how he handles this mini-series first.

Now, for a more serious matter. I don't know for sure, but I think you goofed. On page 23, panel three, Blackbyrd said that the Sons of the Tiger..."dumped those jade amulets..." and that Hector Ayala put them on,and was thus transformed into the White Tiger. But in the ever-popular POWER MAN AND IRON FIST #66, on page 12, Bob Diamond is shown still wearing his amulet!

Other than that little mistake, I like the overall book.

Michael Andring
Route 1, Box313
Mahnomen, MN 56557

Ah, But it wasn't a mistake, Mike...as a future issue of POWER MAN AND IRON FIST will explain!

Dear Rog,

PPTSS #49 was great. I think that SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN is the best Marvel Comic being published at this time. (AVENGERS is a close second.)

Please keep the new villains coming. I loved Belladonna, and the Smuggler shows real promise. Keep him around, and get Belladonna back soon.

I love the start of the White Tiger mini-series. Keep up the good work.

Danny Lieuwen
5332 Springdale
Cincinnati, OH 45239

Dear Roger,

SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #49 was a fine issue. Although Peter himself only appeared in four pages, those four pages were probably the most pertinent to the story's development.

By the way, did you ever think of doing a story in which Spider-Man doesn't appear at all? It would give you a chance to clear up Peter's life a bit...especially as it concerns Debra Whitman. Admit it, it's becoming a little tiring seeing the same "stand-her-up" routine issue after issue. She— and we— deserve better.

Let's see this book live up to its potential, and to the Spider-Man legacy. You're already well on the way!

John A. Wilcox
40 Hales Court
Westport, CT 06880

As these words are being written, John, Denny O'Neil and I are about to start a series of discussions vis-a-vis the timid Ms. Whitman. And by the time this sees print, some of the results of said discussions will probably already be put into action. In other words, watch for some surprises!

Dear Marvel,

I don't believe it!

After all of these months in hiding, the White Tiger is finally back! My eyes almost popped out of my head when I walked into the *Shur-Quik*, where I buy all my comics, and picked up SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #49. "The Long-Awaited Return of the WHITE TIGER!" Wow!

I also like the Smuggler, though not as much as I did some of the other new villains— Belladonna comes to mind— who Spidey has been fighting recently.

Anyway, until next time, long live Marvel!

Bill Hartzo
P.O. Box 34
Queen City, TX 75572

There'll be some startling developments concerning the Smuggler in our very next issue when...ah, but that would be telling, now wouldn't it? Be with us again in thirty days, and see for yourself!

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
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(signed) Ed Shuck — Business Manager

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(signed) Ed Shuck — Business Manager